

Pakistan
shuts down
university
linked to
Rabbani

—Pakistan has closed down an Afghan Islamic university alleged to have links to terrorists, a government official said.

The Da'wa-Tul-Jeha university in the northern town of Peshawar run by Hizbullah-e-Islam led by Abdul Rab Rasayat, a closed ally of Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

"It was asked to pack and move to (the Afghan capital) Kabul," a senior official in the Pakistani committee for Afghan refugees said.

But the official denied its closure was linked to the current souring ties between the two countries after a month's sacking and burning of the Pakistani embassy in Kabul.

"It is an ongoing process," the official said, adding there was no justification for the university to continue in view of the international aid stoppage to the refugees and the closure of the offices of guerrilla groups in Peshawar.

"They should go to Kabul," a student union spokesman said in a memorandum addressed to the United Nations that closure was a violation of international humanitarian law and principles and should urge Pakistan to reverse its decision.

Senior government officials said the process to close down the university had begun four months ago when administration was given notices to pack up and leave the Afghan capital.

The university was closed three months of some months in June but was reopened.

Founded by Mr Sayed in 1985, the all-male university has eight faculties and about 3,000 students, mostly Afghan but including about 100 Pakistanis in its medical and engineering faculties.

Recently, the university was taken over by the Afghan Ministry of Education.

Militants
kill trader
in Egypt

ASSUIT (EPA) — Super Muslim militants shot dead a trader in southern Egypt after they opened fire at a speeding motorist, security sources said Wednesday.

They said Shaban Ali Jassam died instantly after gunmen shot at him Tuesday night as he was heading north to the town of Assuit, about 140 kilometers south of Cairo. The driver of his car was also wounded by shooting.

The gunman thought he belonged to the militant Gar Al Islamya, escapees from the Gama, which has fought for over a year to overthrow the government of President Hosni Mubarak, but most of the attacks are now confined to rural areas of southern Egypt.

The head of security in the southern province of Minya, which has been the focus of most of the recent violence, said on Wednesday that half of 50 suspected militants had been rounded up in a security sweep on Tuesday.

12.45 Dammam (Saudi) 20.20 Amsterdam (Netherlands) 02.35

HUJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

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Top Kashmir Muslim militant killed

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) — Anti-Indian protests erupted in a town in northern Kashmir Wednesday following the killing of a top Kashmiri Muslim militant by Indian troops, police said.

Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, 28, a district commander of the pro-independence group the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), was killed in a gunbattle Wednesday in the town of Trehgam, police said.

A spokesman said the JKLF guerrilla "was killed in a shootout during a search operation" but residents alleged he died while in the custody of the security forces.

Police said hundreds of residents took to the streets of Trehgam, in Kupwara district near the border with Pakistan, following the killing chanting "we want freedom" and anti-Indian slogans.

Senior JKLF leaders, including acting Chairman Yasin Malik, rushed to the town following the death of Mr. Manzoor Bhat, the younger brother of one of the founders of the pro-independence group, Maqbool Bhat.

The Kashmir Valley was crippled meanwhile by a general strike called by Muslim separatist groups to denounce the alleged killings of suspected mili-

tants while in the custody of Indian troops, police and witnesses said.

Shops, government offices, banks and schools were closed in this Kashmir summer capital and private and public transport went off the roads.

The general strike was reportedly widely observed in other towns in the Muslim-majority Kashmir Valley, where a Muslim separatist campaign has left more than 12,000 people dead since 1989.

The Indian authorities stepped up security across the strife-torn valley to prevent anti-Indian protests during the strike.

The strike was called by

Pakistan denies the charges but provides diplomatic support to what it describes as a legitimate struggle for self-determination.

The Indian officials claimed Qureshi died in a shootout.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training Muslim militants battling to end Indian rule over Kashmir, the only state in predominantly Hindu India with a Muslim majority.



The body of the killed driver is covered up beside the shattered remains of the car of Macedonian President Kiro Gligorov after a bomb detonated in central Skopje, seriously injuring the president (AFP photo)

S. Korea arrests 2 students after illegal visit to north

SEOUL (AP) — Two South Korean students returned Tuesday from an illegal 51-day visit to North Korea and were immediately arrested, government officials said.

The arrests of Chong Min-Ju, 22, and Lee Hye-Jong, 20, were expected to further heighten inter-Korea tensions, already high because of political and military tensions.

The two women were arrested immediately after they walked across the border at Panmunjom, a truce village and North-South contact point sitting astride the tense Korean border, officials said.

The two, carrying a flag with a blue Korean peninsula painted on it symbolising Korean unification, were seen off by 600 North Korean students and officials, said officials at the Agency for National Security Planning, the main government spy agency.

Almost simultaneously, along Highway 1 leading to Panmunjom, police hauled away about 40 students try-

ing to march to the border to welcome the two, the national news agency Yonhap said.

Later Tuesday, about 30 students were arrested in front of the intelligence agency's headquarters in southern Seoul during a rally protesting the arrests of Chong and Lee.

Officials have said the two students will be punished for violating a national security law which prohibits trips to North Korea, an enemy country, without prior government approval.

Several prominent South Korean dissidents and student leaders have been arrested and punished with long prison terms for making unauthorized trips to the North.

In Seoul, about 800 students rallied to protest Tuesday's arrests. They demanded the national security law be abolished, saying the government abuses it to suppress movements calling for unification of the two Koreas.

Chong and Lee traveled to North Korea via Berlin and

7th man held after alleged coup bid in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN (AFP) — Security forces in Sierra Leone have detained a seventh army officer in connection with a reported failed coup against the military government but an eighth is still at large, the radio said Wednesday.

No details were given of the capture late Tuesday of Lieutenant Isa Sane who has joined other suspects — a major, two captains and three lieutenants — in a maximum security prison in Freetown.

They are officially accused of "plotting to overthrow" the military government of Captain Valentine Strasser in order to "stop the ongoing democratisation process".

If genuine, the coup attempt would be the second since Capt. Strasser himself seized power in a 1992 military coup, toppling the regime of Joseph Momoh, now living in exile in Conakry (Guinea).

An eighth military suspect was named as Lieutenant Kanja Sandy, who is still at large, according to Major Karefa Kargbo, the director of defence information.

The purported coup attempt did little to disrupt life in Freetown, the nation's capital, with shops, markets and schools remaining open. There have been no reports of troop movements in the interior of the country.

A battalion commander stationed in the southern town of Bo told AFP "soldiers remain in the front-line of war areas".

Prison sources said Wednesday that investigators had already begun taking statements from the detained men to ascertain their degree of involvement in the allegedly conspiracy.

Details of the detained men's plans — and to what extent they were put into action — are not yet known.

The government has nevertheless said that "all concerned shall soon face a military court martial for treason". If found guilty they face the death penalty.

In the view of some analysts here, the supposed conspiracy reflects a split in the military about the return to civilian government announced for February 1996.

Campaigners argue that they have nothing against laser devices designed for detection and targeting as they can often help pinpoint military targets and avoid civilian centres.

Although the focus of the U.N. conference is on curbing the use of land mines, Human Rights Watch backed by other groups such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and Save the Children is urging delegates to block development of all laser devices which can blind.

The LCMS, some the size of an old box camera, can be mounted on an M-16 rifle and can fire a beam powerful enough to burn out the human retina from a distance of up to 1,000

Clinton, Powell rise in U.S. polls

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton's standing in national surveys is improving as the debate between Republicans and Democrats over social programmes intensifies.

Retired Gen. Colin Powell remains a strong wild card as a potential addition to the 1996 presidential race.

Two new polls show Mr. Clinton has widened his lead over the Republican presidential front-runner, Senate majority leader Bob Dole while the president and Gen. Powell run closely together ahead of Sen. Dole in a hypothetical three-way matchup with Gen. Powell as an independent.

A Harris poll conducted on Sept. 28 to Oct. 1 among 1,005 adults found that when asked whom they would back if the election

were today, 42 per cent said Mr. Clinton and 30 per cent said Sen. Dole in a two-way race.

A month ago, Mr. Clinton led Sen. Dole by only 39 to 37 per cent.

With Gen. Powell included as an independent, the results were Mr. Clinton and Gen. Powell 30 per cent each, leading Sen. Dole at 20 per cent.

Gen. Powell, engaged in high-publicity book tour, picked up 5 per cent in the last month, while Mr. Clinton and Sen. Dole stood at 29 per cent and 26 per cent, respectively, in the three-way matchup a month ago.

Gen. Powell, who is considering a Republican or independent bid, pulls equally from those who voted Republican and

Democrat in 1992, but gets more of his support, 43 per cent, from those who supported billionaire Ross Perot's independent candidacy that year.

In a three-way race including an unnamed candidate from Mr. Perot's new Independence Party, Mr. Clinton had 36 per cent, Sen. Dole 25 per cent and the independent 19 per cent.

A Washington Post-ABC News telephone poll of 1,530 people over the same time period also showed Mr. Clinton gaining strength.

He bested Sen. Dole 52 per cent to 42 per cent, up from a July survey that showed Mr. Clinton enjoying only a slight edge.

U.N. conference urged to ban lasers

VIENNA (R) — Portable laser weapons designed to strike an enemy with a silent, invisible beam are often depicted as a mainstay of the high-tech armories used in scores of futuristic movies.

But these images have now reached the clipboards of real life military planners and pressure groups fighting for such weapons to be banned have brought their campaign to a U.N.-sponsored conference on inhumane weapons currently under way in Vienna.

Lasers which can blind a human being already exist and are not at present illegal under international law.

"Using blinding laser weapons is an unacceptable way to wage war," Ann Peters of the Washington-based lobby group Human Rights Watch told Reuters on Wednesday.

"Their use, production and transfer must be outlawed before they open a new chapter in warfare," she added.

Human rights watch has identified 10 different blinding laser weapons pro-

grammes being developed by the United States, code-named the Laser Countermeasure System (LCMS).

The British defence journal, Jane's Defence Weekly, reported that China displayed a "laser interference device" at defence exhibitions in the Philippines and Abu Dhabi in March.

Sales literature openly stated that one of the major applications of the weapon was to "injure or dizzy" targeted individuals.

Russia, France, Britain, Germany and Israel also are developing laser weapons, Jane's said.

The military say the purpose of these weapons is to counter battlefield surveillance and would be used only to disrupt optical and electro-optical devices, such as binoculars, gunners' sights and infrared sensors," Ms. Peters said.

The LCMS, some the size of an old box camera, can be mounted on an M-16 rifle and can fire a beam powerful enough to burn out the human retina from a distance of up to 1,000

metres, Human Rights Watch said in a report.

"There is no protection for someone using binoculars and the laser will blind the person behind the binoculars before it destroys the optical," Ms. Peters said.

Five of the U.S. tactical laser weapons have reached prototype form. One of them known as Dazer is considered the most dangerous and has been described as "hazardous to the eyes and skin" and "at peak power, voltage is lethal".

The Human Rights Watch report said.

Campaigners argue that they have nothing against laser devices designed for detection and targeting as they can often help pinpoint military targets and avoid civilian centres.

Although the focus of the U.N. conference is on curbing the use of land mines, Human Rights Watch backed by other groups such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and Save the Children is urging delegates to block development of all laser devices which can blind.

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The Indian authorities stepped up security across the strife-torn valley to prevent anti-Indian protests during the strike.

The strike was called by

the Ikhwan-Ul-Muslimeen, or Muslim Brotherhood, to protest the alleged death of the chief commander of the group, Altaf Qureshi, while in the custody of Indian paramilitary troops two years ago.

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World News

Ruby packing her trunk for Oklahoma; plan is to get pregnant

OXFORD (AP) — Ruby the pachyderm is putting her painting career on hold as she tries to get pregnant. The 22-year-old elephant, whose paintings have raised about \$10,000 for the Phoenix Zoo, is headed to Oklahoma for an 18-month internship with Speezy, a year-old Asian elephant at the Tulsa Zoo. From sitting in the sand with trunk, she developed a tick for applying paint to a canvas with a brush held in her trunk. Speezy will be her first mate, and Ruby's hope is to return pregnant. An international team of experts working to save the endangered species in extinction picked her one of the best-painted Asian elephants in North America to reproduce. Birth American zoos have put 150 Asian elephants out of 40,000 of the animals survive in Asia; some experts predict the elephant may be extinct in the wild within 20 years, largely from loss of habitat as forests are converted to farmland. Born in Phoenix since she was nine months old.

Woman accused of killing and eating husband

OXFORD (AP) — Police arrested a 26-year-old woman on suspicion of killing her husband, then eating and eating his remains, officials said. Neighbors found the body of Nikolai Lukash on the stairs near his apartment in a residential area of Moscow. Lukash was found when they found a body was a human being, said Alena Alexeyeva, spokeswoman for Moscow regional police. At the police station, Lukash was identified as Nikolai Lukash, 36, however, said. Lukash was taken to a psychiatric hospital in a central Moscow hospital.

Coffeeshops may be on the way out in Iran

TEHRAN (AP) — Iranian

lawmakers have voted to

ban coffeehouses, a

lawyer said. The

law, which

was introduced by

Iranian clerics, is

expected to be

signed into law by

Iran's president

on Friday.

Pavarotti's wife denies divorce imminent

TOP HORN (AP) —

Italian tenor

Luciano

Pavarotti

and his wife

have agreed to

settle their

marriage

problems

in a

settlement

agreement

signed

recently

in a

statement

from his

lawyer.

They

have



American Larry Green (right) holds a guilty sign as compatriot Mable Coleman (left) wears a 'free O. J. now' T-shirt outside the Los Angeles Criminal Courts Building prior to the announcement of the not guilty verdict in the O. J. Simpson trial (AFP photo)

Simpson verdict greeted with disbelief

HONG KONG (R) — From the United States to China and Britain to New Zealand, the world gasped with disbelief at O. J. Simpson's acquittal on double murder charges in "the trial of the century".

People virtually everywhere waited with tense anticipation for the verdict in the true-life soap opera that began on June 12, 1994 with the murder of the former American football star's ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend, Ron Goldman.

Only in a very few places, notably France, were the trial and the verdict treated with indifference. No TV or radio station interrupted regular programming to carry the verdict live instead the all-news LCI television channel and the all-news Radio France-Info carried full reports on the verdict well into their regular newscasts.

News of the acquittal jolted America, prompting both relieved "cheers" and incredulity. It surprised both those who believed Simpson innocent and those who believed he was guilty — opinions that often divided along racial lines.

In Britain, during the 15-minute courtroom verdict sequence, power consumption went down sharply as domestic chores were postponed.

Britain's best-selling tabloid newspapers were sceptical about the acquittal. "What a farce — circus sets O.J. free to make millions" said Today newspaper's headline. The Daily Star declared: "O what a sick joke. Money talks — O.J. walks."

The Sun, devoting its first three pages to the case, called the verdict "the biggest surprise in legal history".

Vienna's daily Die Presse, Austria's most reputable



A photograph taken from television shows O. J. Simpson smiling upon learning that he was acquitted of the murders during the reading of the verdict in the Los Angeles county courthouse (AFP photo)

broadsheet, pushed its deadline back by more than an hour to include the verdict in Wednesday morning editions. "Triumph for O. J. Simpson — he's free" it blared on the front page.

"It's a story that the whole world has followed," the paper's evening copy editor Alexander Fieber said. "It doesn't involve Austria in any way and a year ago hardly anyone knew who O.J. Simpson was. Now everyone knows..."

New Zealand morning radio and television led on Simpson, virtually a complete unknown in New Zealand before his trial, although the verdict came too late for morning papers. Former prime minister and opposition member of parliament, David Lange, a lawyer, said the case appeared to conform with an old British jury saying that it was better to let a guilty man go free than to convict an innocent man.

The Sun, devoting its first three pages to the case, called the verdict "the biggest surprise in legal history".

Most Australians were asleep when the verdict

came, leaving them to wake up to radio bulletins dominated by reports of the acquittal and then a deluge of talk-back calls from mostly astounded people.

Callers said they could not believe the verdict and blamed his well-paid defence team for using the race card to obscure the evidence. One caller to Australia's most popular talkback show was so angry she began crying during the phone-call.

While Hong Kong's three English-language papers gave the O. J. Simpson verdict front-page treatment with extensive coverage inside as well, the Chinese press neither gave it their front pages nor their sympathy.

In Japan he was not particularly well known compared with other American stars, Japanese newspaper editors said.

"Oh, he's been acquitted?" asked one Seoul secretary in surprise. "I don't think people here really cared about the case, except at first, when we learned that he had been married to a white woman. That was shocking to us."

In China, Shanghai's

Sri Lanka rebels report heavy shelling in north

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan army heavily shelled parts of Jaffna peninsula Wednesday, apparently in preparation for further advances in its offensive against Tamil Tiger rebels, residents monitoring rebel radio said.

Tiger radio said there had been very heavy army shelling which went on till this morning, said a resident. "Thousands of people have been displaced from their homes."

The offensive in Jaffna, which began Sunday, and is codenamed "Operation Thunder Strike", has killed at least 300 people, including about 240 Tuesday, by government count.

The rebels have admitted

the loss of 150 fighters in Tuesday's fighting and said it has killed 84 soldiers, the residents said.

A military communiqué said it knew of at least 200 rebel casualties by monitoring Tiger wireless communications. It said the armed forces lost nearly 40 people, 15 of them in an attack by rebel naval wing Sea Tigers on a navy vessel off the eastern town of Mullaitivu.

Rebel radio said fighting was now concentrated on the towns of Awarankal and Putur, indicating the army had swung south in the direction of Jaffna city after breaking eastwards out of the government-controlled Palaly Air Base and capturing

108 male rebels and 10

Sunday.

The government has said it wants to recapture Jaffna city after the rebels broke a truce and resumed hostilities in April, refusing to consider a peace plan to end the 12-year revolt.

Diplomats said monsoon rains which appear to have started could delay the army's advance as troops moving with tanks and artillery ran the risk of losing air cover in bad weather.

More than 50,000 people have died in the rebel war for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the island's north and east since 1983.

Wednesday's military communiqué said the rebels of

women were handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the security forces Tuesday.

Diplomats said the latest upsurge in the conflict could be the start of a widely expected all-out government offensive on the northern stronghold of Tamil separatists.

But they added that a continuous drizzle apparently presaging the onset of October monsoons may put this in doubt.

The army has said the captured towns were in a radius of 21 square kilometres southeast of the government forces' Palaly Air Base headquarters.

Britain's Blair hailed, critics fall silent

BRIGHTON, England (R) — Opposition Labour leader Tony Blair basked in praise Wednesday for a rousing party conference speech which offered regeneration to Britain through a new moral code and technological revolution.

Newspapers across the political spectrum compared Mr. Blair, 42, to former U.S. President John F. Kennedy. Left-wingers, who have sniped at their young leader for moving Labour away from its socialist roots, were

In a crusading speech to his party's annual conference, Mr. Blair attacked the government for "tearing apart the fabric of our nation" during 16 years of unbroken Conservative

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Dismissing charges that his campaign so far has been strong on image and short on specifics, Mr. Blair promised nursery places for every three and four-year-old, smaller class sizes in schools and on-line training for every workplace.

"What you've seen this week is a party not merely with a sense of discipline and unity, but with a sense

of purpose," Mr. Blair told the BBC Wednesday. "The Conservatives are now behaving like the opposition."

In a crusading speech to his party's annual conference, Mr. Blair attacked the government for "tearing apart the fabric of our nation" during 16 years of unbroken Conservative

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summer which saw his huge poll lead of over 30 points slip and old-style socialists lining up to damn his move to the right.

Newspapers Wednesday, even those which have supported the Conservatives through thick and thin, were

The mass-selling Sun, which took credit for Prime Minister John Major's 1992 election win, said: "No politician since John F. Kennedy has made such a visionary, almost evangelical appeal to the young ones who are our future."

The pro-Labour Daily Mirror hailed the speech as a "call to arms" and even the strongly pro-Conservative Daily Mail called it a "tour de force" and a "near faultless performance".

The speech was crucial to Mr. Blair who needed to stamp his authority on the party again after a difficult

agreed a deal with Britain's biggest telecommunications company BT to cable up every school, hospital, library and college in the country for free in return for access to the online market.

Award-winning columnist Andrew Marr in the Independent

said: "This...helped convey the image that Labour wasn't only poised to govern but had started governing already."

Leading left-wingers pledged to work with Mr. Blair for a victory in the general election which must be held by mid-1997.

"We should now prepare for government," Bili Morris, head of the main transport union who has been critical of Mr. Blair's modernisation drive, told the BBC Wednesday.

which...we were elected," he said.

Meanwhile defiant hardliners stood in a long line outside Russia's main TV Centre Tuesday, holding pictures of their dead to commemorate an attack on the building during the October 1993 political violence in Moscow.

Police beefed up their presence across Moscow in anticipation of unrest and set up headquarters near the city's White House, the symbol of hardline challenge to President Yeltsin two years ago.

Tuesday was the second day of rallies marking the October 1993 events and a near-repeat of a gathering Monday in downtown Moscow.

Most of the protests, however, drew several hundred people at best.

Hardliners stood again holding pictures of people who died in the Oct. 3 fighting at the TV Centre and in the army assault on the White House, then parliament building and now the Russian government's seat.

Some held Soviet red flags emblazoned with hammer and sickle, others the black, yellow and white flags of nationalist movements. A few held banners stained with what they said was the blood of comrades who died fighting.

About 300 people attended the rally.

Former Vice President Alexander Rutskoi, one of the ring leaders of the revolt, laid flowers outside the TV Centre in Ostankino, which his followers rammed two years ago with trucks in their bid to seize control of national television broadcasts.

"We will never forget friends who died here and in the White House defending the Soviet Union, Soviet power and Russia," said Mr. Rutskoi, who plans to run for president next year. We vow to continue the struggle we began two years ago until victory."

Hurricane races toward U.S. gulf coast

BATON ROUGE, La. (R) — Hurricane Opal grew stronger and faster in the Gulf of Mexico Wednesday as it swirled toward scores of offshore oil and gas platforms and the coast stretching from Louisiana to Florida.

The storm's heavy rains were blamed for at least seven drownings in the Mexican state of Tamaulipas, according to Mexican government officials.

Hurricane Opal's winds strengthened to 115 mph (175 kph), making it a dangerous category 3 hurricane, and forecasters issued a hurricane warning from Mobile, Alabama, to Key West, Florida.

At 11 p.m. EDT (0300 GMT Wednesday), Opal was centered about 425 kilometers south of the mouth of the Mississippi River. It was racing to the northeast at about 21 mph (34 kph).

"We're not going to breathe easy until Opal makes landfall and moves inland some-

where else," said emergency operations director Nathan McCrimmon of St. Tammany Parish, north of New Orleans.

Thousands of Louisiana

residents fled coastal areas prone to flooding in preparation for the storm. Homeowners in Pensacola and throughout the Florida panhandle — where hurricane

Allison and Erin hit earlier this year — also pulled out plywood, nails and bottled water supplies.

Evacuation orders were in effect for the barrier islands in Escambia County in the panhandle. As the fringes of the storm hit Tuesday, heavy rain fell and streets were flooded.

After hurricane Erin, many panhandle residents were without power for four to six days and debris still littered the streets from that storm.

Forecasters at the National Hurricane Centre said Opal was likely to strike land sometime early Thursday, but said it was still too early to pinpoint the most likely target.

Louisiana officials said they hoped the storm would veer east to spare the state.

"I don't want to wish ill on anybody, but I sure hope it passes us up and goes somewhere else," said St. Bernard Parish emergency management director Bob Broccomontes.

Engineers have yet to determine why the main fuel valve in Columbia's engine No. 1 leaked during fueling last Thursday. The valve was replaced by a spare.

Seven astronauts will spend 16 days conducting more than \$100 million worth of science experiments involving crystals, fluids, fire and potato plants.

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Allison and Erin hit earlier

Jordan Times

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No room for settlers

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin's defiant mood against American Jews opposed to his peace moves with the Palestinian side did not come out from a vacuum. It is well-known that Israeli hardliners and extremists have been busy recruiting supporters from the diaspora, especially in the U.S., who have succeeded to win over some U.S. congressmen in their efforts to torpedo the Oslo I and II accords with the PLO on one pretext or another.

On the one hand Rabin has some U.S. rabbis whom he likened to Iran's "ayatollahs" after they called on Israeli soldiers to refuse orders to evacuate army bases in the West Bank; and, on the other hand, he has American "fringe groups" which have been acting on instructions from the anti-Rabin groups in Israel to undermine the peace agreements with the Palestinians. These alliances between the far right factions in the Israeli body politic and like-minded North American Jews spell trouble not only for the Labour government but also for the entire peace process.

In essence what the anti-peace activists want is to see Israel cling to every inch of the West Bank and make it de facto, an Israeli territory. There is a certain Jewish group whom Rabin has rightly labelled as "loathsome," which is busy lobbying in Washington against giving aid or grants to the cash-strapped Palestinian self-rule authority. It strikes us as absurd to refuse support for the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) at a time when much is expected from it to contain violence and reverse the tide of despair among Palestinians. Surely the extremists and the fundamentalists within the Israeli and Jewish ranks know that the stability, security and prosperity of the areas under Palestinian control would be translated into greater security, stability and prosperity for the Israeli people themselves at the end of the day. And that is precisely why they are opposed to giving them up and losing themselves and ideology in the process.

The settlers must be served with notice that we in Jordan are solidly behind the peace accords between Israel and the PNA. This easily explains why His Majesty King Hussein went to Washington to sign and witness the latest peace agreement for expanding Palestinian autonomy. The hundred or so Jewish settlers who illegally crossed the border Monday to express their opposition to the Taba agreement were not about to find comfort in Jordan because what they stood for was unacceptable to the people and government of this country and to its best interests.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

COMMENTING on the expulsion of Palestinians from Libya a writer in Al Ra'i said that the Libyans seem to be taking revenge on the Palestinians for the continued U.N. sanctions on Tripoli for its alleged involvement in downing a Pan American plane. Mahmoud Rimawi said that there can be no justification for the Libyan authorities to deport people who have lived and worked in the country for many years for no sin they committed except that they chose an Arab and Muslim country to seek employment and improve their living conditions. No justification or falsehood or claim can convince a person in his right state of mind that the Palestinians are leaving the country of their own free will, especially after they have heard Muammar Qaddafi ordering them to be deported and urging other Arab states to follow suit, added the writer. He said no one can condone such shameful act committed against people who have endured so much suffering by being turned out of their Palestinian homeland and living in miserable camps for most of their life.

DISCUSSING LABOUR Ministry's measures to control the local labour market a writer in Al Dustour said the ministry should not succumb to any pressure from any source trying to disrupt its measures against the violators of the law. Mohammad Daoud said that the three-month deadline given by the government to non-Jordanian workers to adjust to rules and obtain work permits is nearing, but the ministry has failed to report on any action taken against violators. The ministry should live up to its promise and take drastic measures against those staying in Jordan with no work permits and open the way for Jordanian job-seekers to get employment, demanded the writer. At a time when Jordan is facing a growing unemployment problem, the public is waiting to hear from the ministry the extent of the success of its measures if any success in this matter has been achieved.

The View from Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

The Amman economic summit and future Arab relations

THE AMMAN Economic Summit Conference, scheduled to begin at the end of this month, carries within it a significance which goes way beyond its immediate objectives, especially with respect to Arab-Arab relations. Indirectly, the conference comes to remind us of what these relations ought to be based on.

The idea behind the conference (among other things) is to enable the Middle Eastern countries, in the new era of peace in the region, to sit down with potential Arab and international investors and discuss actual or potential joint business projects. In other words, the summit epitomises the major concerns and needs of the Middle Eastern, Arab and world countries of today. In the aftermath of the cold war, world countries (especially the major industrial powers) are in hot pursuit of viable economic projects and business opportunities. In world politics today, the overriding concerns are economic; "making a buck" has become, for most world countries, more pressing and important than commitment to human rights, ideology, the spread of democracy and other traditional concerns. This is, for example, what lies at the heart of U.S. relations with Japan, China, South America and the Middle East. And it is quite understandable, in light of the latest developments.

At a time when world countries are taking international economic opportunities, economic competition and economic welfare seriously, and are adopting speedy steps and measures congenial to projects of mutual benefit and gain, the Arab World remains largely aloof, too slow or way behind in this respect. Even though the overall climate has changed drastically over the past few years, a change which in many ways mirrors international developments, Arab-Arab relations remain in substance where they were ten, twenty, thirty or forty years ago; lukewarmness, pretended love, promises, rhetoric, dreams, jealousy and indirect or open hostility. Aside from a very few excellent examples of mutual cooperation (say The Jordanian-Syrian Land Trans-

port Company) most talk about Arab-Arab cooperation is at best symbolic, if not entirely hollow and void of content.

One understands perfectly, of course, the reasons behind the failure to bring Arab relations to the level which we desire. In addition to the many rules, laws, procedures, bureaucratic practices, attitudes and whimsical decisions which stand negatively in the way of mutual development aspirations, the political climate has for decades been congenial to cooperation, coordination and progress—despite all claims or attempts at Arab solidarity, unity, etc. For a long time, the Arab Nation has been immensely factionalised, fragmented or at odds with itself. The factionalised, fragmented and odd world situation which prevailed in the aftermath of the World War II affected the Arab Nation tremendously. Within its own body (among the so-called brethren), there were undeclared as well as declared factions, alliances, counter-alliances, ideological camps, comrades and enemies.

I would also say that one main reason Arab-Arab relations have not worked so far is the false assumption on which such relations have been built. Whenever Arabs spoke of Arab-Arab relations in the past (in fact they still do), they always emphasised (despite the reality which often reflected something to the contrary) brotherhood, sisterhood, fraternity, kinship, comradeship, love, etc. Of course, the Arab World has so much in common: A common culture, a history, a heritage, a legacy, a language, a religion. This is undeniable. But one also cannot deny that the Arab Nation is today composed of twenty or more countries, each having its own individual aspirations, dreams, vision, needs, problems, conception, perspective, and so on. How can we deny that? This is one question to keep in mind. The other equally important question is, how can individual countries base their relations on brotherhood, sisterhood or love? Where can you cash that?

I would say that what has been absent for a long time (or

buried under mountains of patriotic and poetic slogans) in the Arab World is talk about mutual interests. Yes, this is (realistically speaking) what Arab-Arab relations ought to be based on. We are brothers, we are sisters, we are one nation, we are one culture, etc. Fine. But let's define our individual needs, concerns, wishes, even whimsical or peculiar wants. Do my brother and I (just because we are brothers) have the same needs, wishes, wants, hobbies? Do we like the same food and wear the same clothes? Obviously not.

I believe that the situation in the Arab World has changed tremendously, primarily because of the world changes at large. Even though some of the differences of the past still remain with us, most of them are in reality meaningless. Ideological differences among Arab countries (if they do in fact exist) are not serious. What is at stake here, whether Arab countries are aware of it or not, is economic survival, welfare and prosperity. The future of the Arab World, like the future of the world at large, lies in real economic cooperation. This is something the Arab Nation ought to prioritise.

The Arab World today has no reason to be at odds with itself. On the contrary, the Arab countries have so much in common, and they do complement themselves in many ways, especially economically. Some countries have the labour, some have the capital, some have the congenial geographic climate, some have the expertise, and so on.

The Amman Economic Summit Conference is a great opportunity for the Arab World, an opportunity in a double sense. First, it provides a specific forum for the presentation of specific economic projects, projects which we hope will be implemented. Secondly, it provides an example of what the Arab Nation ought to be doing as of today.

We need less patriotic sermons and more joint economic projects.

EU retreat does little to solve problems

By Jeremy Gaunt
Reuter

ALCUDIA, Majorca — An informal meeting of European Union (EU) leaders on a Mediterranean island last weekend did little to solve the dilemma facing the bloc as it heads towards the 21st century—and may, even, have made some worse.

Billed as a relaxed get-together to ponder the shape of Europe as it expands into Eastern Europe and adjusts to life in the post cold war world, the Majorca summit on Friday and Saturday was naturally hailed by its participants as a success.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, the host, said the idea of meeting without ministers, advisers and a formal agenda was so popular that the leaders wanted to do it more often.

But beneath the rhetoric about "bringing the bloc

closer to its citizens, the EU faces major challenges by the end of the decade, to keep monetary union plans on track, rewrite its founding treaties and complete its next enlargement.

The turmoil on currency markets in the run-up to Majorca, following comments from Germany that Italy might not make it in the first wave of countries to qualify, illustrated how much work remains to meet the 1999 target for monetary union.

Italy's Prime Minister Lamberto Dini, clearly upset by seeing his group of seven industrialised countries relegated to the second league, mentioned the unmentionable and suggested that date could be delayed.

Even without this, however, a number of leaders, notably Ireland's John Bruton and the Netherlands' Wim Kok, worried aloud about what happen to the economies of the countries who did not make the

strict currency criteria by 1999.

Though there was little summit tension over next year's inter-governmental conference (IGC), the EU's

IGC must tackle divisive issues such as a country's right to veto legislation, increasing the voting power of larger states, attempts to bring judicial

tion to deeper integration, said leaders should face reality and stop worrying about institutional change, now its citizens drifted off in disinterest.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, whose support is crucial for EMU, said he was putting his personal credibility on the line in demanding that Europe forge a deeper union.

Without agreement at the IGC, the union will be unable to start negotiations to bring in as many as a dozen countries from eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.

Existing EU institutions and rules were designed for a bloc of six countries in 1957. Many officials say they are already out of date for a bloc of 15 in the 1990s. What, they say, will happen to them with a bloc of 30 in 2010?

But even putting the institutional questions aside, the EU has yet to come to grips with the cost of bringing

the lagging economies of Poland, Hungary and others into the fold.

EU agriculture and regional aid spending cannot be extended for eastern Europe in their current form without huge outlays that member states are not prepared to make.

Equally, poorer EU members such as Spain and Portugal, who currently receive the lion's share of EU funds, will want assurances that they will not lose out in a larger union.

European commission president Jacques Santer said that once the IGC is over, he will put forward proposals for the future financing of the bloc. Meanwhile, Europe had to put its own house in order before inviting others in.

Despite the "family feeling" which Gonzalez and others praised, all those at Majorca know that the worst family rows are often fought over domestic chores.

LETTERS

Islam should be the guide

To the Editor:

I READ the riveting article entitled, "Snake oil salesman, false prophets, the business of faith" which Rami Khouri contributed to the Jordan Times (October 3, 1995).

Indeed, I want to express my sympathy with some of the views expressed in the article, especially those which cast a light of scepticism on the "creed of the market" which is being preached to us and presented as a panacea for all of our problems.

An Islamic perspective is one that is averse to the diminution of the role of private enterprise and the market place since these are things that inhere in the nature of humans and in the nature of human society and which have a utilitarian, functional value necessary for the survival of society and civilisation. Attempts at countering those indomitable features of creation have been morally destructive, dehumanising and contrary to justice. The legacy of the now discredited Soviet state attests to this.

Having said this, it is important to point out that the capitalist creed, to the extent that it defines the end of human existence in terms of material and sensual considerations, without adequate regard for the spiritual and the moral purposes in life, and without sufficient concern for the disadvantaged in society or those that are victims of its disregard for equity as a principle in international relations, is a philosophy that is an aspect of relative historical, intellectual and economic circumstances. The liberal dogmas that underpin it are equally relative and in a lot of senses are not suited as a universal, equitable system of ideas for mankind, with the latter's varied cultural, ethnic, moral and material conditions.

To the extent that Islam is a manifestation of God's final revelation to mankind, suitable as a doctrine, a legislative ideal and a way of life for all times and social conditions it should be our source of inspiration and guide in these difficult times. Indeed, in it lies the wherewithal to resist the false gods of the age and the principles that can secure us social equilibrium and justice, freedom from exploitation and the happiness that we all yearn for.

Mr. Khouri initiated his article by saying "Ours is a very ancient, deeply spiritual and very mercantile land..." This statement embodies the texture of a

culture that entwines faith and spirituality with the material engagements of those that belong to it. Needless to mention, its monotheistic traditions appear forever to overcome the polytheism, the materialism and the hedonism that lamentably have a presence in human existence; these traditions give sanction to both the worldly and the otherworldly, the corporeal and the spiritual, the economic and the moral— all forming a structure of existence which Islam is uniquely capable of guiding and regulating, under God, the Everlasting, the Immutable, the One.

Khaled Nusseibeh, Amman.

The right to a dignified life

To the Editor:

WE have read with indignation about the trial of the Filipino maid in the U.A.E. and feel dignified that we do not have similar problems in Jordan on a large scale. However, we do not have to look further than our own neighbours' door to realise that foreign house helpers are being used and abused in our midst on daily basis.

Enthusiastic about the would-be achievements of the U.N.'s Fourth Conference on Women's call for equality, we need to stop and ask ourselves whether the equality we are advocating is broad enough to encompass those who are living among us and who are of different race and creed. As I look around I am disgusted by the way that some individuals within our society treat foreign maids as sub-bumans who enjoy neither their natural right to self-dignity nor the right to protest against gross maltreatment by their employers. Violations of this inalienable right include long working hours, physical and verbal abuse, lack of adequate sleeping quarters, just to enumerate a few.

The horrifying factor is that these maids are not treated well by some of the offices which bring them into the country in the first place. Most often when the maids voice objections to employment in a specified house, some offices handle this complaint by resorting to violence, thus inflicting further offenses to force them in effect to succumb to the will of the lord. More atrocious is the human selection process which one undergoes to hire the maid in the first place. Akin to the days of slavery in women, these maids are lined up in the office for the prospective employer to view them. With terrified looks on

their faces and fear in their eyes, offices start the barrage of personal questioning of their life histories. This degrading process did not go unnoticed even by my five-year old child who asked me if we were buying the women, how much we were paying for her, and can she name the one selected "fosh."

Lacking any scientific research on the degree of abuse these maids are subjected to except beretay and personal witnessing of their maltreatment by the office and employers, I ask who is protecting their rights to a dignified existence. Although many may wonder as they read this article whether this is a frivolous topic to delve in since our own battered Jordanian women do not enjoy full protection and recourse to the law, yet human injustice should be protested no matter who its victims are.

Abia Amawin, Amman

Stop nuclear testing

To the Editor:

At a time when the world is trying to clean the environment and reduce the danger of pollution, France decides to resume nuclear testing in the Pacific. The world has suffered enough from ecological disasters at the bands of humanity, and nuclear testing is certainly a big threat.

With the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the collapse of the Eastern block, the threat of nuclear war no longer exists. Many of the nuclear warheads in the former Soviet republics are being dismantled. So what will France benefit from the resumption of nuclear testing?

If the French find it clean and safe to explode nuclear devices, then why don't they do it in their own backyard? I am sure they have the facilities to carry it out in France, instead of endangering the lives of animals, plants and humans in the Pacific. I hope that the French have not forgotten that there are people living in Tahiti and other parts of French Polynesia.

To President Chirac: Please stop the experimentation before something happens that everybody will regret afterwards.

Mohammad A. Jaleel, Amman.

Weekender

Jordan Times, October 5, 1995

Published Every Thursday

SOCIETY ON THE MOVE

Seniors make the news, juniors find new mews

and poetic slangs) in Arab relations ought to be sisters, we are one. But let's define our (just because we are) whimsical or yes, wacky, hobbies? Do we the same clothes?

The Arab World has because of the world of the differences of them are in reality among Arab countries. What is at stake aware of it or not, is prosperity. The future of the world at large, lies in something the Arab

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Mohammad A. Jalal

Amman

Former Prime Minister and former Senator Ahmad Obeidat is back in Amman with a clean bill of health. Mr. Obeidat returned from one of his periodic check-ups in the United States where several years ago he had received medical treatment. On his return trip he stopped in Berlin where he was invited by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation to a conference on the "return of socialism." Mr. Obeidat, who was once director of the General Intelligence Department, reports that speakers from Europe, Latin America and the Middle East gathered to discuss political and economic changes in the former "Eastern Bloc" countries six years after the fall of Communism and the rise of Western-style democracy and capitalism. The focus, he says, was on the turbulence which followed — unemployment, violence, organised crime — and what political and economic steps could be taken to prevent such negative outcomes. The two-day conference was opened by German Minister of Foreign Affairs Klaus Kinkel. With a passing report card from the doctors and an earful of the recommended dos and don'ts in eras of change, Mr. Obeidat, a lawyer, has much to ponder while getting back to work as president of the Jordan Environment Society and activist on the political lecture circuit.

IN THE NICK OF TIME: Recovering well from a stroke, retired army Chief of Staff Fawaz Maher, returned to Amman from Jerusalem where he was being treated at Hadassah Hospital. General Maher, who was once military governor of the West Bank, and served as ambassador to Turkey and China after his retirement from the military, was airlifted by helicopter from King Hussein Medical Centre to the medical facility in Jerusalem more than two weeks ago when it appeared his condition was worsening. Gen. Maher was said to be placed under tight security at Haddassah because throngs of journalists converged on the hospital to investigate the story. But two people were able to slip through the lines and even get in twice to see him. They were none other than Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his wife Leah. As young officers Mr. Rabin and Gen. Maher were in the same class at the Royal Command and Staff College at Camberley in England. In fact, on his first visit to Jordan after signing the peace treaty with the Kingdom nearly one year ago, Mr. Rabin had asked to see his old classmate. As soon as he was in stable condition and well enough to fly back to Amman, Gen. Maher was brought home again. He is now convalescing well. Since his retirement from diplomacy, Gen. Maher has devoted most of his time to charity work, particularly in the Circassian community of which he is an active member.

LET'S TALK SHOP: PING: "Business at Jerusalem's Malha Mall is booming," according to Jacob Dallal of the Jerusalem Post. And the reason is, he reports, is the "unexpected clientele — Jordanians." Certainly, the use of the term "booming" is gilding NO FOND FAREWELLS: Suhail Matalqa has retired at the age of 60 as advisor to Ministry of Information. The former diplomat who served at Jordan's embassy in Lebanon in 1970 as information attaché, then went on to serve in Tokyo, is sad, not for himself, he says, but for a system that would allow a veteran

HOME OF HIS ALMA MATER: Bahrain's new Ambassador to Jordan Ambassador, Mohammad Seif Jaber Al Matalqa, is certainly no stranger to the Kingdom. Born in 1952, the ambassador is a graduate of the Jordan Military Academy and the Royal Jordanian Staff College in Amman. In 1989 he served as Bahrain's military attaché in Amman. A full colonel, Ambassador Matalqa follows in the steps of his diplomat father who was an ambassador of Bahrain in Kuwait. The new envoy is described as generous and having a pleasant personality, thus he has many friends and acquaintances in Jordan.

civil servant leave his final post without so much as a fond farewell. In his varied tenure at the Ministry of Information as an advisor/counsellor, Mr. Matalqa was seconded to the Arab League in Tunisia, in New York as deputy director, and in San Francisco as director. He also spent a year in Washington, D.C. at the Jordan Information Bureau. When he returned to the ministry he served under then Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzedine. He went to work for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for one year as director of information. But since 1993 he says he has been a "nominal advisor." After, by his count, 29 years, 3 months and 18 days of service, he feels resentment for the "uncivilised manner in which people in high positions treat loyal citizens." Mr. Matalqa has no set plans for his retirement but family members think it will not be long before he finds something of interest in the private sector.

Ambassador Matalqa is married and has two girls and two boys.

DESTINATION AMMAN: Starting Sunday about 400 employees from airline round the world will be in Jordan for the convening of the 28th Annual General Assembly of the World Airline Club Association (WACA). Hosting this first-ever meeting in a Middle Eastern country is the Jordan Interline Club, which itself boasts about 100 members. WACA is the international body of Interline Clubs which aim at promoting the interests of personnel in the airline industry and exchanging ideas and suggestions with counterparts in the various airlines represented in each participating country. So far representatives from 35 countries have registered for either the four-day or six-day package, the difference being the extra days will include tours to Jerash, the Dead Sea and Petra. Jordan's delegate to the conference is Sakher Kreisha of Royal Jordanian's Computer and Information Systems Department, who said that with the prevailing peace in the region, the number of participants to the coming event has doubled. Mr. Kreisha was particularly pleased that the WACA meeting also coincides with the 10th anniversary of the Jordan Interline Club. The participants are coming from North America, Latin America, the Near East, the Middle East (including Israel) and the Far East. While one can expect serious matters on the WACA agenda, airline staff still know how to have fun, and that they surely will at the gala dinners planned for the international event taking place at the Jordan InterContinental Hotel.

A MOST STUDIOS BUNCH: Fun is not necessarily the aim of the Jordanian Students Association which was just established, with the blessing of the government, in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Its goal is to "spread the cultural message of Jordan and better an already favourable and peaceful image" of the Kingdom in the U.K., say members of the association's founding committee. The six-man team of 5 doctoral candidates (Ma'in Mardi Qatamin, Fahed Saleem Khateeb, Lu'ay Minver Rimawi (who etimes writes for the Jordan Times), Ibrahim Abdel Rahman Karasneh and Sultan Abdel Rahman Tarawneh) and one masters degree hopeful (Zayed Ali Bashayreh) say they seek to cooperate with Arab and overseas student bodies, especially in areas of academic and social interest to Jordanian students. But we remind our aspiring academicians: All work and no play...

Jennifer Hamarneh

Fallen is the mask

Memory for Forgetfulness: August, Beirut, 1982
by Mahmoud Darwish
Translated from the Arabic by Ibrahim Muhawi
University of California Press, 1995, 182 PP.
\$10

ness, narrow like an open space that doesn't look out from a window... You're defending the lineages of this coast against the mix-up of meanings, that history shall not be made docile and the place a mere estate to be inherited" (pp. 50-51).

Three years later, Darwish closeted himself in his flat in Paris, his new place of exile, and hammered out his thoughts and memories centred on one day of the siege: August 8th. The result was published in 1986, as *The Time: Beirut/The Place: August*, in the literary journal *Al Karmel*. Now, a decade later, it has been published in English with a title more poetic, but equally paradoxical.

Paradoxes are rife in *Memory for Forgetfulness*. In Beirut, Begin encounters the "ghosts" he thought he had eradicated at Deir Yasin, while the Palestinians are required to leave, with no home to go to. This echoes the original paradox of the Palestinians being classified as "present absences" in their own country, which Darwish argued against in his early poems.

During the siege, Darwish, the most eloquent of Palestinian poets, did not write. "I'm writing my silence," he told a journalist (p. 61), according preeminence to the defenders of the city to whom he says:

"Guard then, as you are doing, the cutting edge of the song against what blunts the heart in this narrow wilder-

Beirut is a paradox — a city open to all, providing "training for an imagined democracy," yet in the end making the Palestinians outsiders. Darwish fears for the future: "... as we move away, we can see ourselves turning into memories" (p. 60). What happened to Palestine? he asks. "Peace swallowed her," answers a voice (p. 95).

Darwish contrasts the Palestinian's hope of return with the reality of betrayal. Palestine is on all lips, yet the Palestinian most often finds himself a scapegoat:

"... When he holds his peace, his soul is taken out to the stray dogs" and who moves towards the homeland, his body is dragged out to the dogs. The intellectuals... have convinced him he's the only alternative to the status quo; yet when the status quo pounces on him, they demand self-criticism because he has gone too far..."

Darwish makes more meaningful self-criticism, faulting the PLO for not holding leaders accountable, for severing democracy from nationalism and seeing in Lebanon "only our own image" (p. 45). None of his themes have become

How many trees grow in New York? City wants to know

By Carol Vinzant
Reuter

New York — The city of New York is trying to count its trees before they are all gone.

Several incidents of "arboricide" this year have spurred on hundreds of volunteers and parks department workers to start walking the city's 33,278 blocks, clipboards in hand, to find out exactly how many trees do grow in the five boroughs.

Police last month arrested a contractor hired to cut down three trees that obstructed a corporate sign on the front of a gym, and a reward of \$2,500 was offered for the "murder" of seven other London plane trees.

The Parks Department calls a man they claim chopped down 42 trees to get a better view of the "Butcher of Bay Ridge" and wants him to pay \$32,000 to replace the big, old trees with 92 new ones.

"It's definitely arboricide," said Parks Department spokesman Park Specker.

Census takers will note the size, species and health of the trees. The information will be put into a huge tree management data base to be used to help pruners, removers and planters, Mr. Specker said. They expect to find 500,000 to 700,000 trees along city pavements. An estimated two million more are in city parks.

No one is sure how much the census will cost or how long it will take, but coordinator Tricia Lindemann estimates a couple of months. "We're only limited by the onset of cold weather and leaves falling," she said. "It's very difficult to identify a tree without leaves."

In a city with little greenery, trees are a precious commodity and their destruction has been known to cause neighbourhood commotion. But because of a reduced street tree budget,

survive. The most popular trees for new planting are the gallerry pear and the honey locust.

Life in the city is just too rough for many trees. A tree with a normal lifespan of 10-12 years has an average life of only seven years in Manhattan, said Joe Bernardo of Trees New York, a non-profit group that trains citizen pruners.

"Most trees planted are about 12 years old. It's like getting an adolescent and bringing it out of the nursery and turning it out on the streets of New York," Mr. Bernardo said.

Mr. Specker said the new data base will show which trees are more likely to survive.

While the city says it removes roughly as many trees as it plants, tree planting advocates claim the city actually removes several thousand more dead trees than it replaces with new ones each year.

How Claude Khazzizian, 64, gets past the security checks without an invitation he will not say, but the television footage and the print media photographs all show he has certainly found a way. No doubt his impeccable double-breasted suit helps.

His exploits have made Mr. Khazzizian the darling of the French media, who identify him only as "Claude X."

While declining to give details, he spoke to AFP about some of this year's exploits, starting with the Elysee Palace reception in May when 61 heads of state and government gathered to see Jacques Chirac succeed Francois Mitterrand as French president.

"Claude X" duly

appeared in photos with them.

"The excitement mounted with each step I took," he remembered.

"I kept saying to myself, 'I'm going to leave, someone is going to ask who I am.'

But then it was cocktail time, followed by the photo call, and there I was, talking with several heads of state. "Everybody was in a good mood and was there to relax, not to discuss politics, Claude X said.

Places reserved in the stands for government people were marked to red. "Doo's be too big-headed, I thought, and sat down at the back," Claude X said.

Computing against the current

By Jean-Claude Elias

PC users come in many colours, shapes, and ages. They can be 10 years old or they can be grandmothers with 20 grandchildren. A gentleman I know started to learn computer programming in his early sixties and is now successfully selling his work. Among all this wide variety of people, some are necessarily doing a better job with the machines than others.

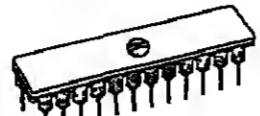
A rare breed is even able to take the best out of the old PCs they own. They do it right and quickly. One would probably think that theirs are super fast machines, with plenty of megabytes and megahertz, fitted with highly advanced software and programming languages. If this is actually the case for a very few lucky ones, others, on the contrary, work with relatively simple, inexpensive computers, and still manage to obtain excellent results.

The trend towards Windows-based software, and Windows 95 more particularly, implies minimum hardware characteristics, in terms of memory, disk capacity and processing power. Going with the trend means buying expensive equipment.

The rare breed we are talking about represents a small percentage of the PC users population that have decided not to go to complicated hardware and software — i.e. not to follow the trend. When the whole world is lusty after 15" or 17" high resolution, expensive colour screens, they are happy working with plain 12" monochrome monitors.

A good old 386 PC fitted with just 2MB of memory and 40MB hard disk — a configuration that would make most of the trend-setters laugh — is more than enough to make them perform like high-flying acrobats in a circus ring. Needless to say, without a net, but with wonderful results.

chip talk



This species usually likes to run fast, efficient word processors like WordPerfect for DOS or Quattro Pro spreadsheet, also for DOS ("for DOS" as opposed to "for Windows"). They gladly sacrifice a few gadgets or features for simplicity and speed. As programming language, they stick to time-tested pieces like Qbasic, Clipper or Fortran. Who cares if they have less control on fancy colour output (especially if they are using a monochrome monitor) and won't use a mouse?

While there is no denial that the new Windows and the related application programmes present a real interest for some, as do the Pentium computers, one cannot but admit that part of all that is due to marketing, clever promotion and fashion. It's hip, it's cool to use Harvard Graphics for Windows instead of the faster, same programme for DOS, even if you are not sure why you are doing it. Somehow, sophisticated PC products, laser discs, satellite dishes and cellular phones belong to the same group of things to (try to) have. You are in or you are out.

PC users who are goal-oriented usually try to make the best out of the software and hardware that is available to them. They generally succeed. Those who are rather task-oriented keep looking for the ideal and fashionable way to do things, using the most hi-tech equipment. They may still be looking.

the lives of people as it becomes diverted into local projects boosting social development and production? If the

analyses of our journalists and so called analysts are anything to go by, then things will begin to pick up for everyone, though for some more than others, very soon. But a won't international investors move to other countries in a few years time once the wage increases here mean that it will be cheaper to produce the same goods elsewhere?

There was some talk about the group of youngsters who did not indulge in the now familiar ritual. Their plan entailed contacting a local radio station where they tried to convince the presenters that they had got the timing of their programmes wrong. Apparently, the people at the station, and for a while, had turned back their clocks, again.

But now that people are talking, maybe its time that we talked about goaty beards and water pipe cafes, about cars and fast food, about Double Burners and Sophist-O-Twists, and about the by now famous millennium mugs.

Or maybe we could talk about words drifting into meaning something else. For example, consider the change that prepositions have undergone over the years. We used to 'fill in' a form but now we 'fill out' a form. People also used to say 'its up to you', while now they use 'its down to you'. Consider also the expression 'go missing' where it is plainly wrong to say that something has gone missing when it has just been lost.

But aren't there far more important things that we could, and rightly so should, talk about? There certainly are.

A recent study in Jordan by the Consumer Protection Society, covering housing, food, health, and education, found that a minimum of JD 580 is needed per month to cover the basic needs of an average Jordanian family while the average family income stood somewhere between JD 120 and JD 200. Also, about 88 per cent of the families surveyed earned less than the JD 580 minimum stated.

"Never be taken in by statistics" was another message this week. People had a hard time believing that using comparative price indexing to boost the presumed average income per person for one country by comparing its prices of commodities with another does anything to their lives. Reality does matter and it is what you pay at the end of the day that matters to the average citizen.

But now that certain loan repayments no longer have to be paid, will we see the effect of that money, and more, on

The old neighbourhoods of our city are maybe some of the last places in Amman where we could go searching for genuine cotton socks and where public space, as it would no longer exist, is truly appreciated.

Sadly enough, all such unique public spaces will in time be either plastered over, turned into highways and roundabouts as truly befits our relationship with progress and modernisation.

REFRESH YOUR MEMORY

Great men make history. Following are six famous personalities. Try to identify them. Recognising four means your memory is still fresh and strong.



— I didn't want to hurt you. Lam aqsid idraraka.
— I feel hungry and thirsty. Ash'or hil'a wal'atash.
— He peacefully died away. Mata wanafshu mut'ma'inn
— May God rest his soul in peace Taghmmadahul'lahu bewas'e rahmat.
— She made the right decision. Ittakhatat al-qarar asaleem.
— You made me ashamed. Laqad akhjaltani.
— It turned out to be all right, I am happy to say. Yus'idoni al-qawl qadintaha ala khayri ma youram.
— Darling! You were fantastic! Habibati! Laqad konti raee'a.
— I guess you've made a big mistake, haven't you. Azonnu annaka irtakabta khata'an jasseeman Alaysa kathak.
— I can never deny that, I am to blame. La asta'i an onkir thaa'ek, fa'an maloom.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mohammad A. Shuqair

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

JOKES

* A FOOL once passed some boys playing with a dead falcon. He bought it for one dinar and took it back home. "Good heavens," shouted his mother. "What on earth that had made you do that. The bird is dead, isn't it?" "Hush, mom! If it were alive, it would cost much more than 50 dinars!"

* At a famous restaurant, a customer sat at a table to have his lunch. He placed a towel round his neck. The chef, noticing him, wanted tactfully to pay his attention to change the position of the towel. A waiter came forward to him, bowed and politely asked him: "Excuse me, sir. Would you like to shave or have your hair cut?"

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the extant rodent in the world?
2. Which English queen bore her husband 15 children?
3. Which is the city that Lord Byron, having spent 23 days there, described as, "my country! city of the soul"?
4. Eton College was founded by which monarch?
5. Where would you find the Gatun Lake, the Haillard

Cut and the Miraflores locks?
6. Which British University was the first to admit women to degrees?
7. What is the noun of assembly for goldfinches?

PUZZLE ME

BILL BROWN, the woodcutter, throws a pretty dart, and when ascertaining his score after one game, he found that each dart had scored exactly one-third of his total. His first dart scored a "single", his second scored a "double," and his third a "treble."

His total was 54. How many did each dart score?



Thursday, Oct. 5, 1995

1:00 Iris - The Happy Professor
1:20 Fireman Sam
1:30 My Secret Identity
2:00 N.B.A.
3:00 The New Leave It to Beaver
3:30 Take Your Pick
4:00 White Heat
5:00 Children's Programme
Les Mondes Engloutis
"Tade et Lls Ensignes Sacres"
Varieties And Game Show
Le Monde Est A Vous
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Court Metrage
Vision
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Soccer Match
Live From Tunisia
9:05 The New Avengers
10:00 News in English
10:25 Movie — "Kindergarten Cop"
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger & Pamela Reed
11:50 The Thorn Birds

Friday, Oct. 6, 1995

1:00 Read A Lee Deed A Lee
1:15 Beethoven
1:30 Why Didn't I Think Of That
2:00 White Fang
2:30 The Ronn Lucas Show
3:00 Tall Tales & Legends
4:00 The Crystal Maze
5:00 Children's Programme
Les Mondes Engloutis
"Le Temkor D'Arkana"
5:30 Telefilm
La Balle Pi Rdhi
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
E=M6
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 African Skies
8:00 Coach
8:30 World Museums
9:15 Wolf

JTV CHANNEL TWO WEEKLY PREVIEW

10:00 News in English
10:25 Buccaneers (Social Drama)
11:30 Movie — The Last Glory Of Troy
Starring: Steve Reeves & Carla Marlier

5:30 Serie
Fruits Et Legumes

6:00 Document
Mittle Europa

7:00 Le Journal

7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia: Le Magazine De L'Extreme

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 Cinema, Cinema

8:00 Cinema, Cinema

8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

9:15 Murder She Wrote

9:45 Only In Hollywood

10:00 News in English

10:25 Voices Within (Mini-Series)

11:10 Return To Eden

5:30 Documentary
Le Loire Au Fil Des Hommes

12:30 Keeping Up Appearances

6:00 Drama Series
Operation Open 1 Et 2

7:35 Nurses

7:45 Harry And The Hendersons

8:00 Cinema, Cinema

8:45 Blue Heelers

8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

9:15 Tarzan

9:45 Murder She Wrote

9:45 I Love Lucy

10:00 News in English

10:25 Voices Within (Mini-Series)

11:10 Return To Eden

11:50 The Tin Flute (Mini Series)

12:30 Keeping Up Appearances

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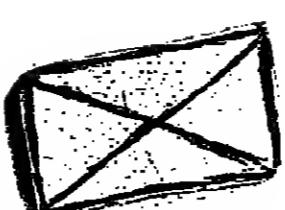
7:45 Major Dad

8:00 First Flights

8:45 The Bold And The Beautiful

9:15 Star Trek — The Next Generation

Arts & Fashion



Jordan Times, October 5, 1995

C

After string of hit movies, MacDowell laughs last

By Bob Tourtellotte
Reuter

HOLLYWOOD — In her mid-20s, critics laughed off Andie MacDowell as just another gorgeous model who couldn't act, but after a string of hit movies, MacDowell is the one laughing now.

In Greystoke: The Legend

Of Tarzan, Lord Of The Apes (1984), Glenn Close was hired to record over MacDowell's southern accent. As she has with other difficulties in her life, MacDowell refused to let it discourage her.

"It's still slightly irritating because it's the most negative aspect of my career. But the most important thing is

that I overcame it," the actress, now 37, said in an interview for her new movie *Unstrung Heroes*.

MacDowell could have returned to the security of lucrative modelling contracts for the likes of L'oreal and Calvin Klein. Instead, she went to acting school and auditioned for every role that came her way.

"

"I love the relationship the mother and son have," MacDowell said. "the strength and power of that."

Liz is in a transition, too.

She is battling cancer and trying to keep her family together in a tumultuous time.

"

Her husband Sid, an eccentric inventor played by John Turturro, is having trouble dealing with her disease, and he is convinced he can dream up a machine that will save her.

"

Twelve-year-old son Steven, played by Nathan Watt, decides to uncover his Jewish roots by developing a mentor relationship with his two neurotic uncles, one of whom is played by Michael Richards, the madcap Kramer on television's *Seinfeld* show.

"

Liz's snub power helps settle the awkward situations that develop and keeps the family together. "There is something to be said for overcoming difficult periods in your life," MacDowell said in her southern drawl. "It makes you a much stronger person."

"

MacDowell overcame a difficult childhood with an alcoholic mother to become a famous model whose face appeared in television commercials and magazine ads around the world.

"

It is human nature that people want to criticise models because it looks like

Andie MacDowell with British actor Hugh Grant in the movie *Four Weddings And A Funeral*

things have been given to them and they make so much money," she said. "The very fortunate thing for me is that I did not have to portray beautiful women (on film)."

Years after the disappointment of *Greystoke*, she landed a part in an obscure, low-budget movie called *Sex, Lies And Videotape*. It became one of the biggest hits of 1989 and earned MacDowell praise from critics and audiences.

A string of Hollywood-sized films such as *Green Card* followed, helping to cement her reputation as a legitimate actress. But another low-budget movie,

Andie MacDowell in the film *Sex, Lies And Videotapes*

Filmmakers invade East Europe to save money, get new look

By John Horn

The Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — The logic is simple. The story originally set in Chicago is filmed in Moscow. The movie about Argentina is shot in Budapest. And the generic American horror thriller is made in Romania.

In the wake of political upheaval in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, a growing number of U.S. filmmakers are invading former Warsaw Pact countries, attracted by fresh vistas and low overhead.

Many of the roving productions are low-budget outfit, but a few — such as Madonna's *Evita* filming in Hungary — are multimillion-dollar blockbusters.

"I think Eastern Europe is a very viable alternative," says Buzz Feitshans, president of production at Cinergi, the makers of the Peron family musical *Evita*. Budapest's exteriors will double for Argentina's. Feitshans says, so the company won't have to build many expensive sets.

Some of the overseas facilities — not to mention the moviemaking hardware — are far below Western standards, and most crew import cameras, lights and sound equipment. But what Eastern Europe lacks in modernity, it more than makes up for in cheap, ample labour and unique locales.

Filming in and around Moscow was not a complete breeze, though.

More than 90 crates of production equipment legally shipped from Munich to Moscow was not released from customs until Waller slipped officials \$5,000 cash and several bottles of vodka.

"The work ethic is real good and there are absolute

ly fabulous locations," says Charles Band. His Full Moon Entertainment buried its Enchanted studio three years ago to churn out 30 of Fall Moon's modestly budgeted direct-to-video horror movies (including *Subspecies*, *Trancers*, *Dragon World*).

"We're in the volume business, and you get a lot more value for the dollar," Band says.

One of the best current examples of "Hollywood East" is the new thriller *Mute Witness*, about an American movie crew member who stumbles upon a snuff film ring.

This independently produced movie's story once unfolded in Chicago. Russia proved to be a much more affordable setting, so writer-director Anthony Waller overhauled his script, adding a new twist about the KGB and making Russia's rickety political infrastructure part of the drama.

"We could shoot in Russia at a fraction of the cost we could have in the West," Waller says. "In fact, the movie would have been unfilmable if we had remained in the West." Much of the movie was shot in the dilapidated government-run Mosfilm Studios, and that structure's seedy amplified the snuff film storyline.

Filming in and around Moscow was not a complete breeze, though.

More than 90 crates of production equipment legally shipped from Munich to Moscow was not released from customs until Waller slipped officials \$5,000 cash and several bottles of vodka.

After all, Corman thought,

how often can you get a \$1 million set for free?

"We were not able to take advantage of all the Russian locations, but we took advantage of the sets," says Corman of the back-to-back productions. He gave Mosfilm the movies' Russian rights as part of the deal.

"The pictures look very, very big," Corman says. "We filmed totally with their equipment — some of which is not completely up to Western standards but is good enough."

The makers of the long-delayed *Evita* considered making the movie in the country in which the story is set, but Eastern Europe was simply too attractive. To bring equipment into Argentina, which has sparse production hardware, Cineri would have to ship supplies in from Australia. In Budapest, cameras and lights can be easily transferred from Germany.

"And you have a look there that you would have to build in other parts of Europe," Feitshans says of Budapest. "For a large part, the cities have not been taken over by neon lights and parking meters — the stuff you worry about when you're doing a period film."

As opposed to filming in the United States, he adds, filmmakers are surprisingly welcome abroad.

"You can literally go out in the streets without too much trouble," he says. "The government responds to you, unlike most of the U.S. (major cities). In Los Angeles, they defy you to make a movie here."

Cezanne fever hits Paris

By Michael Thurston
Agence France Presse

PARIS — Even by the famously art-loving standards of the Parisians, the stampede to get into the newly-opened Cezanne retrospective show in the Grand Palais here is something to see.

Days before it opened Saturday, queues stretched round the block by hopefuls trying to gate-crash press viewings. After a tempestuous first day, organisers Sunday imposed reservations-only access until after lunch every day.

Little surprise, since the huge show, bringing together 180 works from five decades in the life of the father of modernism, is the largest such exhibition for 60 years.

Connoisseurs will not come away disappointed: the show includes a host of versions of *Baigneuses* (the great bathers) and no fewer than 14 versions of the "master of Aix's" famous *Mont Sainte Victoire* landscape.

Collections worldwide have been raided for the exhibition, which spans five decades of his work from his dark moody beginnings in the 1860s to his definitive *Les Grandes Baigneuses*, painted in the year of his death in 1906.

In between are some of the most famous experiments in modern art, pointing the way forward to Fauvism, Cubism, and beyond in works that led Picasso to describe him as "the father of us all."

Held to coincide with the centenary of his first Paris exhibition in 1895, the show is the fruit of a collaboration between the Grand Palais, London's Tate Gallery and Philadelphia's Museum of Modern Art.

The 21 million franc (\$4 million) exhibition runs in Paris until January 7, before heading off to London from February-April next year, and Philadelphia from May until August.

The chronologically-arranged show — a courageous decision, since Cezanne was notoriously lax in dating his pictures — begins in the less well-known realms of his 1860s output, where erotic themes couple with sombre and dramatic painting to



A woman sitting, waiting patiently while reading a magazine, in the line in front of the Grand Palais for the opening day of the Paul Cezanne exhibition. This is the biggest retrospective for Cezanne since the 1930s (AFP photo)

produce strongly romantic pictures.

The growing influence of Impressionism contemporaries like Pissarro and Monet soon lightens the provence master's palette,

however, and outdoor subjects begin to abound by the 1870s.

The exhibition, which includes 109 oils, 42 watercolours and 26 sketches and studies, is divided overall into five sections corresponding to the decades in Cezanne's career:

It is not until the 1880s however that Cezanne's pioneering work really takes off, as he combines the Impressionists' lessons

with experiments in form and composition that were to prove his most lasting gift to 20th century art.

The culmination of Cezanne's career provides the piece de resistance of the Paris show. Dominating the final gallery of the Grand Palais, the 1906 *Baigneuses*, on loan from Philadelphia, is worth the entry ticket on its own.

But wait, the show isn't quite over yet. One interesting aspect of the centenary retrospective is that you don't have to actually go to an art gallery to experience it.

Through the wonders of modern technology, the organisers have created a

CD-ROM, entitled *Me, Paul Cezanne*, which allows the debutant art-lover to explore each canvas in intimate detail without leaving his or her computer-screen.

Or for that matter there is the create-your-own Cezanne: A collection of specially-commissioned yellow, brown and red bowls and jugs, as seen in the master's work.

Combined with strategically placed apples and pears, you can bring Cezanne's still life's to real life.

Perhaps those in the enormous que outside the Grand Palais should be told something.

Paris talent seeks fame in the vineyards

By Christopher Burns
The Associated Press

DURAS, France — As the sun sets over vineyards, lights go up on a stage erected in front of a chateau, where a coquettish widow plays cat-and-mouse with eager suitors.

The audience, a mix of locals and tourists, is delighted by the production under the stars, a hilarious and lively portrayal of Carlo Goldoni's *The Shrewd Widow*.

While the Festival D'Avignon and its hundreds

of shows is the best-known outdoor event in France, there are myriad productions whose curtains don't fall with the leaves.

And provincial theatre is more than a weary selection of campy annual town plays, it attracts talent from Paris by offering opportunity to the up-and-coming.

"It's great to walk through the fields and past the cows and then you're on the stage in the open air," said actress Marie Piton, who brilliantly plays the seductive widow Rosaura.

The theatre company that produced the play, *Les Baladins En Agenais*, is based in the tiny southwest-

ern town of Monclar, where the troupe lives in a rustic dormitory.

"Even if most of our work is in the provinces, we don't have any amateurs," said actor-director Roger Louret, 45, who was the intensely wacky Harlequin in the Goldoni play.

Louret's company also has produced *The Twist Years*, playing at the Folies-Bergere in Paris, and he says he depends on talent from Paris such as Piton who are looking for a career boost.

World could face revenge of the germs, book says

By Paul Harris
Reuter

LONDON — "The revenge of the germs" could soon be upon us. Decades of medical progress against mankind's most deadly enemies are set to come to an end and the world will be left defenceless to face a wave of new lethal epidemics.

That's the terrifying prospect offered by American author Laurie Garrett in her book, *The Coming Plague*.

"We are going to be the last generation who, as parents, don't have to worry about one of our children dying of a contagious disease," she told Reuters as she launched the book in

Britain. Garrett believes that explosive population growth and rapid industrialisation, coupled with poor medical practices, have given microbes the upper hand in doctors' battle against infectious diseases. "We are losing the war now," she said.

Diseases caused by tiny viruses or bacteria invade larger host bodies with sometimes horrifying results — the Ebola virus which ravaged the Zairean town of Kitwit caused its human victims to bleed to death through every orifice.

Harmful diseases are normally treated with medicines such as antibiotics. However, bacteria and viruses can mutate their

genetic structure and become resistant to drugs. Garrett says this has been amplified by inefficient use of the drugs.

Antibiotics are wrongly prescribed or courses of treatments are not completed. This leads to bacteria living in an environment where the drug is not present in strong enough doses to kill them. The result is a build up of resistance.

Garrett says doctors are running out of options as the number of effective drugs falls. She calls for drugs to be better controlled so their effective life-span is extended.

She contends that poor urban sanitary conditions in many areas of the developing

world, have meant that diseases thought to be under control have returned.

Last year pneumonic plague broke out in the Indian city of Surat and 300,000 terrified people fled the region. In an echo of the plague panics of earlier centuries many countries imposed restrictions on travel to and from India.

Others disagree with Garrett's doomsday scenario.

Dr. Gordon Cook of the St. Pancras Hospital of tropical diseases in London

believes that, while it is unlikely manmade drugs will ever defeat viruses, they will match them in battle.

"Throughout the history of life there have been

plagues and we don't know what's going to come up next. But with medical technology we can keep pace with it," he says.

Garrett says humans now exist in such numbers that they have spread to areas of the world where previously unknown, and lethal, viruses lurk.

This lies behind the emergence of Ebola and the equally devastating Machupo virus in Bolivia, she says.

Ebola surfaced in Zaire earlier this year in an epidemic that killed more than 200 people and hit headlines around the world. Its death rate was about 80 per cent.

Cook says most of these viruses are not new. Rather

it is medical advances that have allowed them to be accurately diagnosed and so "discovered". "They are not new diseases. They have clearly been there for a very long time," he says.

But Garrett, who witnessed the Ebola outbreak, says that misses the point. Modern methods of transport and mass migrations in search of work have rapidly multiplied the number of people who can be exposed to a disease.

The black death, which may have wiped out up to a third of Europeans in the 14th century, travelled from its Asian heartland on slow moving trading caravans and ships.

Garrett says she resents being labelled a "prophet of doom" and insists the mea-

sures she advocates would succeed. Failure to act, she warns, could be rewarded by dire consequences.

She believes the next great plague is most likely to be an influenza-type illness. In 1918-19 an influenza epidemic swept the world, killing up to 20 million people.

"Influenza antibiotics are weakening in efficacy. Influenza undergoes genetic mutation all the time. It's part of its basic mechanism of survival," she says.

If her suggestions are acted upon there is room for optimism, Garrett says.

"It depends a great deal on whether these plans are funded and taken seriously. If not, what I see is very grim."

Slow-release fluoride 'builds bones' without side effects

By Paul Recer
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A new slow-release fluoride pill builds bone and reduces fractures among women who suffer from severe osteoporosis, a disorder that leaves thousands with brittle bones and some crippled with deformed spines.

Dr. Charles Y. C. Pak of the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Centre in Dallas said the new fluoride formula caused an increase in spinal bone density of more than 4 per cent annually among older women who already had severe osteoporosis, making their bone tougher and more resistant to injury. It also reduced spinal fractures by about two-thirds.

Dr. Pak was reporting on the study at a meeting of the American Society For Bone and Mineral Research in Baltimore. The study also is being published in two peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Robert Lindsay, president of the National Osteoporosis Foundation and a professor at the Columbia University Medical College in New

York, said Dr. Pak's study is "very important" because it proves that a proper dose of fluoride and calcium sustained over time, can reduce fracturing.

"The key is the delivery system," said Dr. Lindsay. "It appears to give sodium fluoride in a more sustained fashion."

Earlier studies found that sodium fluoride in combination with calcium citrate will build bone in women with osteoporosis.

But the studies also showed that doses of fluoride strong enough to strengthen bones also caused toxic side effects in the stomach. When high doses of fluoride mix with normal hydrochloric acid in the stomach, hydrofluoric acid, a corrosive chemical, is formed.

"That's what they use to etch glass," said Dr. Lindsay. "It caused a lot of gastric bleeding."

Dr. Pak said the new form of fluoride avoids this problem by packaging the drug in a gelatin capsule that does not dissolve until it is passed out of the stomach, avoiding most of the

hydrochloric acid effect. Instead, the pill is slowly absorbed in the intestine.

In a four-year study, Dr. Pak used 110 women who had all suffered severe bone loss, including spontaneous vertebral fractures. The women were all past childbearing age, the time in life when osteoporosis most commonly strikes. On average, the women had lost 30 per cent of the density in their backbones. Dr. Pak said.

Half of the women were put on a programme of taking the sodium fluoride pill along with calcium citrate. The other half were given calcium citrate and a placebo that resembled the fluoride pill.

After four years, Dr. Pak said 85.4 per cent of the women on fluoride had experienced no more spinal fractures. Among those on placebo, 56.9 per cent escaped fractures.

Spinal density increased by more than 4 per cent annually and hip bone density by 2.4 per cent annually among those on fluoride. The increase was less than 1 per cent annually for

women taking only calcium citrate.

Dr. Pak said other studies with the new fluoride pill show that the increase in bone density is even more dramatic for women whose osteoporosis has not yet become severe. "The message is to start therapy early," he said.

Osteoporosis affects about 25 million American women. It usually develops after menopause when natural estrogen, a protective hormone, is no longer produced.

The disease causes bones to lose minerals and become light and brittle. Spontaneous fractures are common in severe cases. The so-called dowager's hump, in which part of the spine has collapsed, is a frequent sign of advanced disease.

Slow-release fluoride pills used in the study are not available for general use, but Mission Pharmacal Co. of San Antonio, which developed the drug, has applied for Food and Drug Administration approval to market the product.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

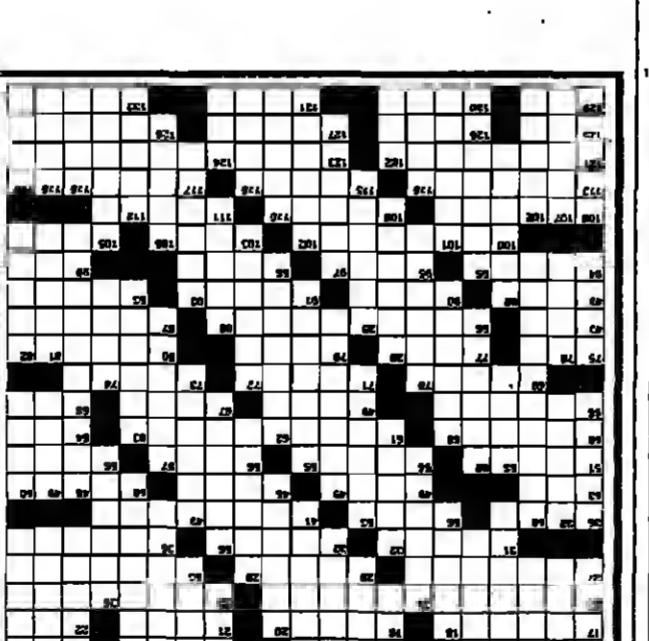
LITERALLY SPEAKING
By Penny Singleton

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Last Week's Cryptogram

1. Laughing hyena chuckles as he takes bicycle belonging to a little boy.
2. High school graduate can't spell "cat," but he's culturally politically correct.

3. If at first you don't succeed, you must try to hide your disappointment.

4. Stupid sign at earning place: "Earn pierced while you wait." Is there another way?

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. HXR POKZVXMX 2ZGVV PVNPK RX'IX KOIX

POHYPNV. MEGWV MEYHTW NIX NVRNQW

RIGHT! — By K.C. Doyle

2. X DTS NO ALL AXVZA THE HOOES. NKA

X'D HOTA THE AXES OHLYKZ. — By Duane H. McKey

3. NIK IKSKEB NYCUB AGIA BABYKID SCOG

WE LONG TWXXBYBKA XYCL IVYBRAST

TBUEDCMLBKA? — By Frank N. Stolo

4. NT EXJIMIK XD PAXU AUG EURGMI EYON

EALTMGRORG RUYTIME TXKOPR. — By Ed Huddleston

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



Study: Smoke-free workplaces greatly reduce health risks

By Brenda C. Coleman
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Researchers sampled the air in workplaces that allow smoking and found that contrary to the tobacco industry's claims, workers are exposed to dangerous levels of secondhand smoke.

Nicotine levels in the offices, cafeterias and other workplaces were more than triple the amount considered hazardous by U.S. regulatory standards, the researchers found in what is believed to be the largest study on secondhand smoke in the workplace.

The tobacco industry says work exposures are trivial compared to home exposures," said lead researcher S. Katharine Hammond, an associate professor in public health at the University of California at Berkeley. "And this paper says that's clearly not true."

A spokesman for the tobacco industry said the study's methods were faulty and its conclusions contradicted other research.

The findings appear in the latest issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. The study was conducted in Massachusetts, when Dr. Hammond worked at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester.

The researchers placed 25 fiber disks treated to react to nicotine at each of 25 work sites, including fire stations, newspaper publishing facilities, textile drying plants and various manufacturing plants. The disks were left in the workplace for a week in offices, cafeterias and production areas.

Nicotine levels ranged from 3.6 microgrammes per cubic metre of air in open offices where smoking was allowed to 1.3 microgrammes where smoking was "restricted" and 0.3 microgramme where smoking was banned. In non-office areas, the levels were 2.3 microgrammes, 0.7 microgrammes and 0.2 microgrammes, respectively.

Other research has found much lower workplace concentrations. Mr. Lauria added, citing a study by Oak Ridge National Laboratory in 16 cities.

"Preliminary results from the Oak Ridge study show as much as 13 times less exposure in the workplace than at other locations," Mr. Lauria said.

He also said it has not been scientifically established that secondhand smoke contributes to lung cancer, as the government says.

The Environmental Protection Agency in 1993 classified secondhand smoke as a serious cancer threat and issued guidelines urging every U.S. company to have a policy protecting nonsmokers from involuntary exposure.

Dr. Hammond said the Oak Ridge study has not yet been published in a scientific journal and subjected to review by experts.

Drugs 'cocktail' may help AIDS victims live longer

By Maggie Fox
Reuter

LONDON — A combination of two AIDS drugs can help HIV victims live much longer than one drug used alone, a team of international researchers reported.

The finding, announced by Britain's Medical Research Council, indicated that combining the common AIDS drug, AZT (Zidovudine) with either of two other similar drugs reduced the death rate by up to 38 per cent over two years.

It added to growing evidence that a "cocktail" of drugs can be effective against the HIV virus that causes AIDS.

The results were so overwhelming the researchers rushed to publish their findings while in the middle of the study.

"It's a surprising finding," said Dr. Tim Peto, a specialist in infectious diseases at John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, England, and one of the coordinators of the study.

"These drugs — AZT and the cousins of AZT, which people had been becoming a little depressed about — if you give two drugs together, they work well."

Another coordinator, Dr. Brian Gazzard of London's Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, said HIV patients starting drug treatment should take the combination straight away.

"We felt that in general doctors should know and the public should know this is true," he said. "I think what's clear is that people now starting therapy should start on combinations."

The so-called Delta Trial, which started in 1992, involved more than 3,000

people with HIV in Britain, Ireland, Australia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

They were randomly assigned one of three different treatments — AZT alone, AZT with Didanosine (DDI) or AZT with Zalcitabine (DDC) — all similar drugs that attack the AIDS virus's ability to work and replicate itself.

Of the patients who had never taken AZT before, 17 per cent who took AZT alone died, compared with 20 per cent

Peace boosts Israeli-Arab energy cooperation

LIMASSOL, Cyprus (R) — Israel and its Arab neighbours, buoyed by breakthroughs in Middle East peace talks, are forging plans for a network of cross-border gas pipelines and regional electricity grids. Israeli oil managers said on Wednesday.

Israel, which has very limited proven oil and gas deposits of its own, is turning to imports of natural gas from Egypt to meet future gas demand in its power generation sector and to help put a brake on its growing imports of coal and oil.

A pipeline will be ready for first phase exports of gas

from Egyptian gas fields in the Nile Delta and Mediterranean to Israel and the Palestinian territories as early as 1998, the managers said.

The line will also extend into Jordan under an energy agreement reached with the Israeli government in July last year.

"The major benefit will be the introduction of natural gas to Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians. Cheaper electricity would be produced," Amos Ron, president of Haifa-based consultants Ronenat told Reuters during an energy conference

held in the Cyprus coastal town of Limassol.

Egyptian gas supplies will be the first regular imports of gas into the Jewish state and, depending on peace talks between Israel and Syria, tanker supplies of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Qatar could be supplied by the next decade.

Electricity generation in Israel is currently dominated by coal and fuel oil feedstock which are imported from international markets.

Gas use in Israel has the potential to rise from less than 100 million cubic metres a year now to 2.8 billion cubic metres (bcm) in 1999 and

over five bcm by 2010 through industrial growth and a switch away from fossil fuels in power generation, according to Mr. Ron, a former director general of Israel's ministry of energy and infrastructure.

Projections of higher energy demand are prompting Israel to look at other schemes ranging from renovating a pipeline linking Haifa and oil fields in northern Iraq to digging a 230 km canal from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea to generate hydroelectric power.

The line to Haifa is not still physically there but the infrastructure and the right of way of the line is still there. It has a great potential for the future," Mr. Ron said.

The line, built by the Iraq Petroleum Company, was shut off to Israel in 1948 because of the war in Palestine while a World Bank supported feasibility study on the Red-Dead Sea canal will be completed in six months but take between 10 and 15 years to bring to fruition.

More tangible evidence of the peace process is an electricity line being completed between the Jordanian town of Aqaba and Eilat in Israel to allow both states to use the line at times of peak demand.

This is expected to be extended to the Egyptian town of Taba as a prelude to a wider grid interconnection between the countries.

The exploration for indigenous oil and gas deposits in Israel is being stepped up to meet higher demand, the Israeli oil managers said.

Drilling at Israel's Heletz oil field and the Arad gas field is about to resume in an attempt to jump start domestic oil and gas output, according to Sami Misbiri, chairman of the board at the Israel Oil Prosecutors Corp. Ltd (LAPIDOTH).

Israeli oil output is limited to just 100 barrels per day.

American firm gets ADNOC contract

ABU DHABI (R) — The Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. (ADNOC) has awarded an engineering contract to expand its Ruwais oil refinery to a unit of the U.S. firm Fluor Corp., an industry source said on Wednesday.

"The FEED (front-end engineering and design contract) has been awarded to Fluor Daniel," the source told Reuters.

ADNOC officials declined to comment.

Industry sources said the contract was worth \$40 million and would give its winner an advantage when bidding for the \$1.8 billion overall expansion deal.

"This amount is not a lot but it is prestigious when considering that the winner is eligible to bid for the EPC (overall engineering, procurement and construction tender)," the source added.

Abu Dhabi produced most of the oil in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), which has an

organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries quota of 2.161 million barrels per day (bpd).

The expansion of the Ruwais refinery is one of the largest oil projects being carried out in the Middle East. It will double the plant's crude processing capacity from about 130,000 bpd and allow it to make more light oil products.

U.S. companies Foster Wheeler and Dresser Industries Inc.'s M.W. Kellogg Co. were also contenders for the FEED contract.

An industry source said the fact that three U.S. companies were top competitors for the deal pointed to better chances for American firms to clinch future deals in the Gulf Arab state.

"This is a signal. The American companies are winning," said the source.

The Supreme Petroleum Council (SPC),

which is responsible for UAE oil policy, approved the Ruwais expansion in January after years on the drawing board. Overall work is expected to take at least three years to complete.

The final cost of the expansion depends on what facilities are added. Most sources gave estimates of around \$1.8 billion, which amounts to the SPC approved budget.

The expansion work is part of ADNOC's plans to spend billions of dollars on projects designed to boost output capacity, meet increased gas demand and improve its infrastructure over the next five years, said industry sources.

Six or seven U.S.-based companies have made presentations to ADNOC on managing the project, including Bechtel, Parsons Corp. and Halliburton Co. Unit Brown and Root, industry sources say.

IMF seeks cash for war chest

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and its rich allies find themselves in an unusual position this week — depending on the generosity of other nations to help fund a \$50 billion war chest to combat future world economic crises.

Faced with tight domestic budgets that contain little room for extra outlays, industrial nations admit they have little choice but to turn to emerging economic powerhouses in Asia and elsewhere for billions of dollars in support.

But as economic policymakers prepare for a series of international meetings that start here this week, it is not clear whether they will get it.

"There is a willingness to discuss this," said one Asian monetary source, who declined to be identified. "But the devil will be in the details."

When Mexico came to the brink of default on its foreign debt at the start of this year, the United States and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) teamed up in a \$50 billion economic rescue package to head off a global crisis.

But Washington has made clear that it is not prepared to play a similar role again while the IMF has said its resources would be stretched if it had to

participate in another rescue. The answer, according to the United States and its allies, is to beef up the emergency finances available to the global lending agency.

Washington and 10 of its industrial allies — Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland — are already committed to providing the IMF with some \$25 billion in credit lines through the so-called General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB).

They want to double that figure, but are only prepared to put up some of the extra money themselves. That is where other countries, including Australia, Korea, Spain, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, come in.

Some of the those same countries were approached to provide money to the IMF for the Mexico bailout, but none agreed. But the countries hope that this time will be different.

Finance ministers and central bank chiefs from the 11 allies are expected to agree on Sunday on an outline offer to try to entice the other nations into participating in a new lending arrangement parallel to the GAB.

Kuwait MPs seek more expats to boost economy

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait should make it easier for foreign workers to bring in wives and children to boost the economy and help stabilise the Gulf country's male-dominated expatriate community, an MP said on Wednesday.

"This will be good for our society because it will make it more stable and balanced," Adnan Abdul-Samad told Reuters. "We have too many foreign bachelors here and this situation poses many kinds of dangers for our society."

Almost one million of the Gulf country's 1.8 million population are foreign guest workers, the majority of them men from Egypt and Asian countries.

They replaced Palestinians who fled or were expelled during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis amid Kuwaiti accusations that they aided Iraq's seven-month occupation.

Unlike the Palestinians, most of the new expatriates do not keep their families or financial assets in the country, largely because of strict residency rules introduced after the 1991 Gulf war to try to reduce reliance on foreign manpower.

Merchants complain that this policy has resulted in a reduction of the consumer market. Some lawmakers allege the bachelor-dominated community is responsible for much of an upsurge in rape cases reported since the conflict.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get busy making collections, payments and reports during the daytime today and be conscientious tonight in home affairs.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Be sure to compromise with an associate who is stubborn as you and come to a fine understanding so that you are very successful in your studies.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have many duties ahead of you today, so concentrate on them and don't try to take on any more responsibilities than you can possibly handle.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Some retribution you were relying on may have to be put off until a better time today, so don't let this bother you to some activities.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Much stress is possible at home today if you do not take a more patient stance and be more understanding with your mate.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is a good day for communicating with others in an ideal way, so contact them and get much accomplished. Avoid problems which could exist.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You want to commit yourself to some practical matter today, but this is not the right time or day for that or there will not be any success.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Don't try to be forceful if you can't get conditions moving as you would like today, but be patient and persevering towards the completion of any task.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You may have a private worry which could keep you fretting if you permit today, so get busy at whatever is practical and accomplish a good deal instead. Be kind.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Concentrate on making right plans for whatever it is you have had in mind for some time to come. Socialise with young people.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be prepared to answer questions which bigwigs put to you and come up with flying colours today, improving your career thereby.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You had better get more information before you take on that new interest which appeals to you today and then you can be successful.

Birthstone of October: Opal — Tourmaline

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Know what the expectations of kin are and try to please them today. Show that you are a devoted family man towards your loved ones.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A family tie and one in the outside world can pose a problem today, but don't take it seriously or there could be complications. Discuss it calmly.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) The morning starts slowly at your activities, but later they pick up speed and you gain much efficiency today. Look for a monetary windfall.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Forget that expensive entertainment plan you have in mind today and be content with whatever you can afford or you could be in serious financial problems.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be more concerned with the needs of your family today and to please them. You can have a fine time with them later in the evening.

VIRO: (August 22 to September 22) Don't be so concerned with minutiae today that you lose sight of the big issues which are more important and profitable towards your success.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Don't let a friend take you away from important business at hand, and later today confer with a bigwig who can be of assistance.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Keep out of the public eye today and avoid some kind of criticism toward your way. Dive into practical interests which you will find enjoyable.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Don't involve yourself today in a disagreement between a partner and a bigwig, but keep busy at practical affairs you participate in.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Use only your best judgement in important matters at this time since your hunches could be way off base now. Be careful in expenditures.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Some situation may arise which could tempt you to act in a startling fashion today, but refrain and get busy at practical affairs.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Be off to the interesting new outlets which appeal to you today and do very little dull activities, since you can gain your aspirations at this time.

Birthstone of October: Opal — Tourmaline

Saudi bank reports 9-month profit

MANAMA (R) — Saudi Investment Bank (SAIB), one of Saudi Arabia's smaller banks, said on Wednesday its net profit in the first nine months of 1995 grew to a record \$2.2 million riyals (\$16.6 million).

A bank statement said SAIB made a \$3.4 million riyals (\$14.2 million) net profit in the first nine months of 1994.

The Riyadh-based bank is owned by Saudi shareholders and several Saudi and foreign banks including Chase Man-

battan Corp CMB.N and Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd.

SAIB, the second bank based to report its nine-month results, said it had allocated an unchanged 15 million riyals (\$4 million) provision for possible loan losses.

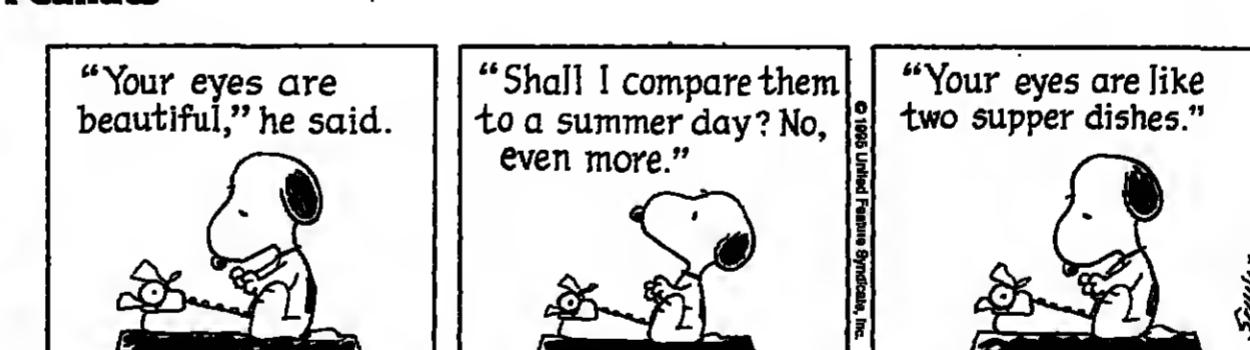
Shareholders' equity climbed to 490.6 million riyals (\$130.8 million) at end-September from 414.8 million riyals (\$110.6 million) a year earlier.

Total deposits rose to 5.97 billion riyals (\$1.59 billion).

THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten



Peanuts



Andy Cap



Mutt'n'Jeff



Indurain storms to first world title

TUNJA, Colombia (AP) — Spaniard Miguel Indurain stormed to the first leg of a world championship double here on Wednesday when he won the 42km time-trial gold.

The five-time Tour de France winner, who also competes in the road race here on Sunday, crushed all comers as he covered the distance in 55 minutes 30 seconds to take his first world title.

The 31-year-old finished a full 48 seconds clear of Abraham Olano, who made it a Spanish one-two.

Olano, who finished second in last month's Tour of Spain where he dominated the time trials, did at least hang on gamely after losing 43 seconds over the first half of the course but he was no real threat to Indurain, an against-the-clock specialist.

Indurain said: "This is the first time I have worn a world champion's rainbow jersey. It wasn't the toughest race of my life, I stayed composed throughout."

The bronze went to Germany's Uwe Peschel, 2min 03sec off the pace while fourth place went to Duvan Ramirez of Colombia, over three minutes back.

Scot Graeme Obree, the 4km pursuit gold winner here, was third after the first 5km, 12sec behind Indurain, but he fell back to finish an exhausted 21st, 5:46 behind the winner.

After the event, Indurain, who is expected to challenge for Tony Rominger's one-hour world record soon, was mobbed by fans.



Nuremberg dump Bremen out cup

BONN (R) — Second division Nuremberg dumped Bundesliga giants Werder Bremen out of the German Cup late Tuesday.

Bremen midfielder Mario Basler looked to have settled the third round tie early on by setting up a goal for Vladimir Beschastnikh and then looping in an inspired lob from 16 metres in 20th minute to give the 1994 cup winners a 2-0 lead.

But Nuremberg, already coquettish of Bundesliga side Hansa Rostock, got

Bayern Munich coach under further attack

BONN (AP) — Otto Rehhagel, coach of German league leaders Bayern Munich came under further attack from his players Wednesday, only a week after French international Jean Pierre Papin had publicly vilified him.

Minor league Homburg 1860 Munich of the Bundesliga 2-1, and to complete a trio of upsets East German amateur side Lok Altmark Stendal toppled Waldhof Mannheim of the second division 5-4 on penalties, having drawn 2-2 after extra time.

Papin said last week that he was fed up at not playing

place, said: "The affair is solely between me and the club," while Scholl said he had been "treated like a child and my future does not belong here."

Kartheinz Rummel, former German international striker and Munich vice-president, reacted angrily and said: "This is unacceptable. We will not allow the coach's authority to be challenged."

Rummel added that none of the rebels could expect to be released from their contracts.

Papin said last week that he was fed up at not playing

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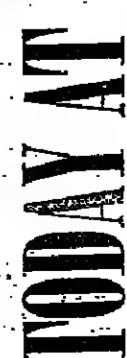
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Edmundo involved in brawl

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — A South American Supercup quarter-final ended in an ugly brawl involving Brazilian striker Edmundo, who is nicknamed the Animal.

Flamengo were 3-0 up against Velez Sarsfield of Argentina in injury time on Tuesday night when Edmundo — who had scored one goal and set up another — slapped defender Zandona after being hit by the Argentine's elbow in a challenge for the ball.

Zandona responded with another slap and then punched the Brazilian striker to the ground. Within seconds, the match degenerated into a fight with players and coaching staff from both teams swapping punches and kung-fu kicks.

"We were casual and we suffered for it — I have no complaints."

Ferguson added: "We had enough chances to win on the night but York worked very hard for it and they deserved their glory."

Delighted York manager Alan Little, brother of Aston Villa manager Brian, admitted: "It was a case of survival. They surprised us with the way they played early. They were very direct and we were struggling."

"But the goal came at the right time for us."

Manchester United crash out of English League Cup

Ferguson gracious in defeat

That's the way they have been of late — if they conceded goals, then they don't know what to do.

Inevitably, Eric Cantona — playing his first away match since that fateful night at Selhurst Park in January when his kung-fu kick on a Crystal Palace fan resulted in an eight-month world-wide ban — took centre stage.

The flamboyant Frenchman became more influential as the match wore on, firing a superbly-executed 61-minute volley from Scholes' deep cross just wide of the target.

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And, just as United were beginning to become frustrated, Scholes swooped on Coles' centre to hit a deflected shot past 19-year-old keeper Andy Warrington.

It meant United needed one more goal in the final 11 minutes to earn extra time and, although Warrington saved at point blank from Cole in the dying seconds, York were the deserved winners.

Paul Barnes, who scored twice in the first leg, ran past Gary Pallister inside the box and, although he was halted by Steve Bruce's timely sliding tackle, Scott Jordan pounced on the loose ball to fire past Schmeichel.

It meant United needed another two goals even to take the tie into extra time and, despite providing chance after chance, they fell short.

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Kasparov takes commanding lead in world chess championship

NEW YORK (AP) — Titleholder Garry Kasparov powered his way to victory over challenger Viswanathan Anand in the 14th game of the Professional Chess Association world championship Tuesday after a frantic time scramble.

Following Kasparov's victory, his fourth in five games, Kasparov leads the match by an overwhelming 5-3.5 points.

"The match is still on, but I think the fight for the title is over," Kasparov said after the game. "The match goes on and anything can still happen."

But he acknowledged having won Tuesday's game after an exciting zigzag battle that could have gone either way. Anand gained an advantage with his opening and was so hopeful of winning that he refused a draw on the 16th move.

"I don't think he deserved to lose today," Kasparov said.

A win scores one point and a draw a half-point. The winner of the contest needs 10.5 points. In the event of a 10-10 tie, Kasparov retains his title.

Anand faces the uphill task of winning four and drawing two of the last six games.

After Anand gained an advantage in the open-

ing, Kasparov complicated the position with his 28th move.

"It was an amazing move that exposed both kings and blew the position wide open," said British grandmaster Daniel King.

The claps and shouts from the 500 spectators on the 107th floor of the World Trade Centre where the games are played reached such a fever pitch the noise penetrated the specially designed soundproof booth where the players face off.

After the game, both players complained to match arbiter Carol Jarecki.

"Vishy was upset and I think he's absolutely right," Kasparov said, adding: "You can't stop the game. You can't move it."

During the games, spectators listen to a commentary from leading grandmasters, shout out their own suggestions and occasionally break into loud applause.

The commotion caused Kasparov to grimace and put his hands in the air and then over his ears. It came at a crucial moment in a complicated time scramble where the game could still have gone either way.

"Gary looked at me and said, 'you've got to protect us,'" Jarecki told reporters, referring to the differing needs of the crowd and the players. She said Anand had complained that the noise level resembled an amateur tournament.

Playing black, Anand

opened with the obscure centre counter or Scandinavian defence and a surprised Kasparov quickly drifted into an inferior position. Anand refused a draw and began to squeeze Kasparov.

Kasparov instituted a desperate attack queenside before lashing out with a dramatic knight sacrifice on his 27th move.

When Anand mistakenly refused to take the offered knight, Kasparov attacked on the kingside, creating a wild position that experts found difficult to predict.

"I looked at Vishy and he looked at me and we both realized this was the turning point," Kasparov said. "He lost track."

With both players running short of time, Kasparov traded the queens, eliminated Anand's counterplay and won a crucial pawn.

In a losing situation, Anand resigned after the 41st move.

The 15th game is scheduled for Thursday, with Anand playing the advantage of the white pieces.

The winner of the contest will receive \$1 million and the loser \$500,000, but the fund will be split if the match is tied.

Kasparov, 32, who lives in Moscow, has held the world championship since 1985. Anand, 25, comes from Madras, India.



Viswanathan Anand



Garry Kasparov

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIA HIRSCH
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HANDLE WITH CARE

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦A Q 10
♦4 3 2
♦Q J 10 7
+A 10 4

WEST
♦8 7 4 3
♦K Q 5 5
♦9
+Q 7 5

EAST
♦A 9 8
♦8 7 6 5
♦5 4 3
♦4 J 9 8 5

SOUTH
♦A J 8 2
♦10 9 8
♦K 4 3
♦K 3 2

The bidding:

NORTH
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

EAST
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

SOUTH
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

WEST
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

As a rule, you need an eight-card fit for an adequate trump suit, and a 4-4 fit is more flexible than 5-3. However, a 4-3 major-suit fit, known as a Major fit, after the late Alphonse "Sunny" May, espoused it fervently in *The Bridge World*, can handle nicely as long as one is careful not to lose trump control.

After South's one-spike response, North has nothing better than three cards in the suit and flat distribution. South might have tried three diamonds (forcing, of course) as a probe for three no trump rather than jump to game, but as the cards lie, it's a fairly "makable" game.

(If you want to play five diamonds, we'll defend.)

Missing six cards in a suit, the normal break is 4-2. Being fit in mind and the spade game presents no problem. West starts with three rounds of hearts and, if declarer ruffs the third, the contract will be defeated. West will ruff a diamond with the long trump and declarer will have to lose a club trick eventually.

The secret is to retain trump control by discarding a club, a trick you must lose anyway, on the third round. If the defenders persevere with a fourth club, declarer will ruff in dummy and, as long as spades break no worse than 4-2, the rest of the tricks are there for the taking.

Note that it does not help for West to shift to another suit after ruffing two heart tricks. Declarer always has 10 tricks — four spades, four diamonds and two clubs.

Russia's women redeem men; Romania and U.S. still in lead

SABAE, Japan (AP) — Russia's women redeemed a dismal performance by their nation's men at the World Gymnastics Championships Wednesday, bumping China off third place, but left Romania and the United States unchallenged as leaders.

Stunningly dressed in pink and black, Russia started with a 9.537 by Natalia Bobrova on the beam and never looked back, showing grace on the floor, power in

the vault and control on the bars for a total 191.408 points.

That left Romania still leading with 192.570, followed by the U.S. team 0.848 point behind. China dropped to fourth at 190.819.

The other teams will try to catch defending champion Romania in optional exercises Thursday through Saturday that determine the team champion and 36 finalists for the individual all-around

title. Russia's Dina Kochetkova, all-around bronze medalist in 1994, bumped American Shannon Miller, the 1993 and 1994 champion, from second place in individual standings. Kochetkova stood at 38.762, with Miller 0.063 point behind. Gina Gogean of Romania stayed on top with 38.799.

But among the men, Russia, Belarus and the Ukraine — once the Soviet team's backbone — performed erratically, leaving Japan, China, the United States and Romania on top.

Russia's men, second only to world champion China in 1994, scored just 276.537 points in the compulsories and stood 11th out of 24 teams competing.

Only Dmitri Karbonenko, standing 22nd, and Evgeni Chabaev, 40th, appeared to

give Russia a chance of reaching the individual all-around finals. Alexei Voropaev, the silver medalist in 1994, stood 51st after the compulsories this time.

Belarus, whose team narrowly missed a bronze medal in 1994, was hurt by the loss of Alexander Shostak, who broke his arm two days before the competition began.

Belarus stood eighth at 278.061, and coach Vladimir Vatkin said it would be difficult to finish higher than sixth.

Ukraine, the 1994 bronze medalist, placed fifth in the compulsories, scoring 279.274. Three Ukrainians were among the top 36 individuals, but Igor Korobchinski, the sixth highest scorer in 1994, fell off the horizontal bar and stood 45th at 54.750.

Going into the options, Japan had 282.060, leading China by 0.012 point, the U.S. team by 1.724 points and Romania by 2.086.

There also was no change in the top two men, with Li Xiaoshuang of China, at 56.987, ahead of Japan's Hikaru Tanaka at 56.800.

Vitaly Scherbo, winner of six gold medals at the 1992 Olympics, moved into third

with 56.674.

Still Scherbo, who lists picking mushrooms among his hobbies, summed up his performance with one word: "Bad."

Scherbo's teammate, defending champion Ivan Ivankov, stood 61st, and scored 7.275 on the bar after falling.

Coach Vatkin said

Ivankov was treated in Israel and Germany for a shoulder injury this summer and then hurt the other shoulder, disrupting his pre-championship training.

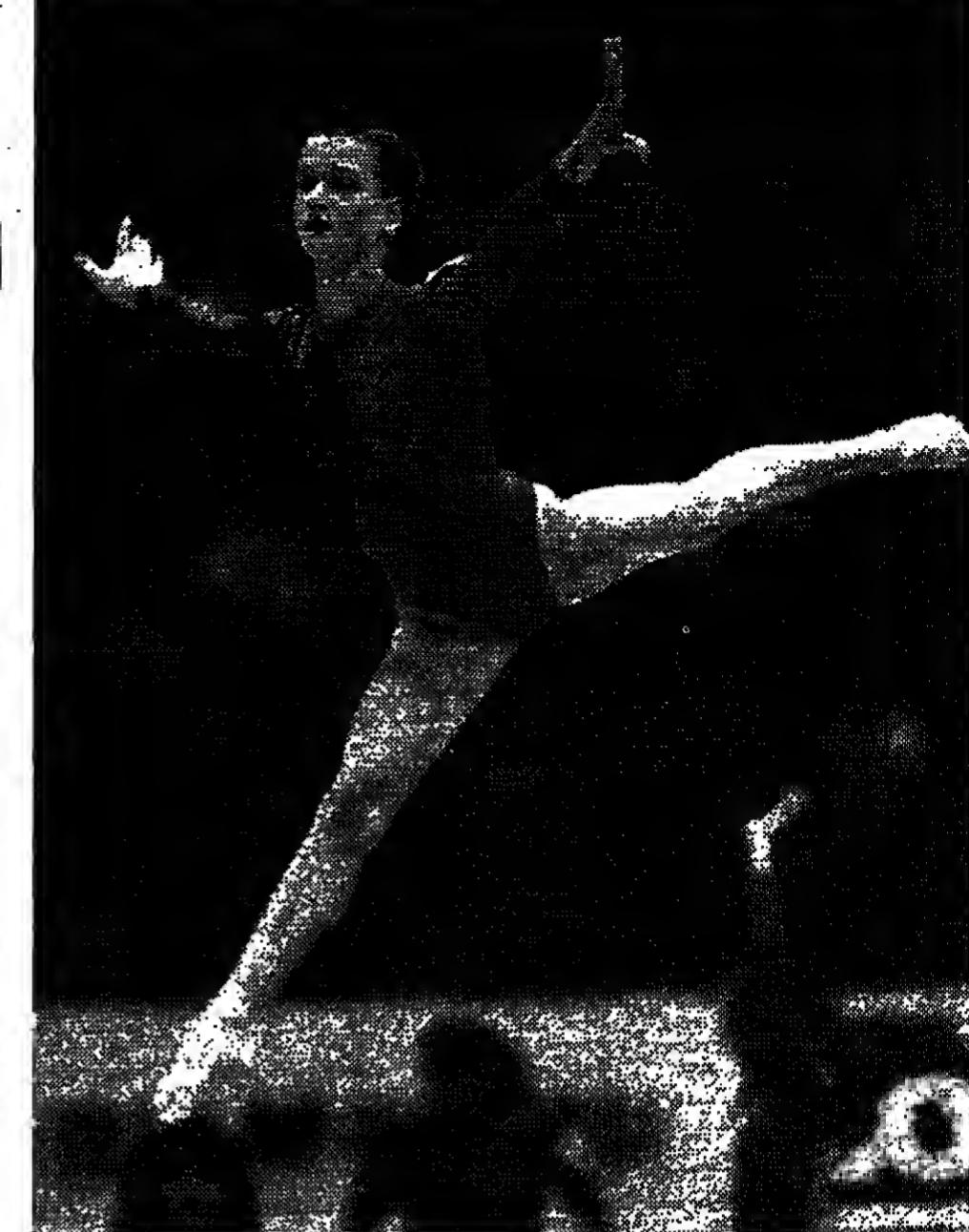
"He wasn't really ready," Vatkin said with obvious disappointment.

But Belorussian Vitaly Rudnitski stood 36th, giving him a chance for the all-around contest.

Russian coach Alexandre Genkin said his team was not feeling fresh, maybe because they overtrained.

He said he hoped for an improvement in the optional events. Delegation head Leonid Arkadiev, coach of the former Soviet team for two decades, said the team's showing was not related to recent changes in his country.

The Soviet team won the championships eight times between 1954 and 1991, more than any other nation.



Svetlana Chorkina of Russia leaps into the air in the floor exercise at the World Gymnastics Championships team compulsory in Saba Wednesday. Chorkina scored 9.750 points on the floor (Reuters photo)

Germany's Andreas Wecker twists airborne over the horizontal bar during compulsory in the team competition at the World Gymnastics Championships in Saba October 4. Wecker scored 9.637 points on the bar (Reuters photo)

Global voting debuts for NBA all-stars

NEW YORK (AP) — Fans around the world will select the starting lineups for next year's National Basketball Association (NBA) all-star game under an expanded voting procedure announced here Tuesday.

Ten million ballots will be distributed in more than 2,100 stores of an athletic shoe firm Foot Locker in Hong Kong, Australia, Europe and North America.

The global ballots will be printed in Spanish, French, German, Italian, Dutch and English.

Another five million ballots will be distributed in the NBA's 29 arenas starting Nov. 8, the same day they become available worldwide.

Viewing worldwide rose as well, with the finals seen in 164 nations, 90 more than just four years ago.

The league began the first official fan club outside North America this year in Japan and is building youth sports play areas in China.

Voters in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Canada and the United States are also eligible for a sweepstakes in which two selected contestants will be given a three-point shot for one million dollars during the all-star weekend.

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"The global component and the new million-dollar format should generate even more excitement

Quake-hit Turkish town struggles to survive; deaths rise

DINAR (Agencies) — Attempts were underway to restore basic services as hopes faded Wednesday that any more survivors would be found in this quake-stricken town.

The death toll reached 88 in the magnitude-6 quake which hit Sunday. Rescuers continued operations to reach at least four more bodies believed to be under the rubble.

Meanwhile, signs of normal life in Dinar emerged.

Three banks started serving their customers in vans set up a small park. A few stores opened. Some phone lines were restored and telephones were placed on empty milk carts turned upside down on the street. Street lights came on Tuesday night after utility workers cut off buildings' connections to the main lines to avoid fires.

But people continued to flee for the homes of relatives in other cities. Packed buses left one after another.

"I'm going to stay with my mother-in-law in Antalya for the time being. I don't know when we'll return, who knows when this town will be rebuilt," said Gul Ozdemir, 22, as she held her two-month-old son Gokce.

Ms. Ozdemir's parents left for Aydin, another nearby city, Tuesday.

Some stayed behind.

"All my relatives live in

Dinar. And I can't afford to move to some other town and start a new life. I hope the government will help," said Ibrahim Karagoz, a retired civil servant.

Residents were going into damaged buildings to retrieve belongings, ignoring warnings from authorities.

"I know it's dangerous to go in, but we don't have blankets — you know how cold it was here last night. If the government had given us blankets, we wouldn't have to do this," Abdullah Turgut, a retired colonel, said as he brought out bags of clothes from his house.

As his son Ahmet was working through the group floor living room, bricks fell from a wall with a loud crash, sending him fleeing. Nobody was injured.

The relatively low death toll was believed to be due to the fact that many people had left town or were sleeping outdoors after a few moderate quakes shook Dinar last week.

A German rescue team Wednesday spotted one person still alive beneath the rubble of a building. Anatolia news agency reported.

It said rescue teams intensified efforts to reach the person who was understood to be still alive Wednesday after being trapped under the rubble of the Dinar security directorate building for 67

hours following the quake. German, Swiss and Greek teams were taking part in efforts by their Turkish counterparts to rescue quake victims.

"Three people were found under debris today and several more yesterday," an Interior Ministry official said in dinar.

He said rescue workers were searching for one person believed to be dead under a collapsed building.

"We have no other reports from families of people missing," the official said. "The chances of finding anyone alive now are very low."

The centre of the town, with a population of about 40,000, was scared by rubble from apartment blocks and public buildings after the quake.

A right-wing party has called for an inquiry into the lack of earthquake precautions and reports that public buildings were the first to crumble in Dinar, Anatolia said.

About 3,000 tents have been distributed to homeless residents in Dinar but villagers from nearby areas affected were still without tents, the agency said.

An earthquake killed 330 people in the town in 1925. Turkey's biggest quake in recent years, in the eastern town of Erzincan in 1992, killed more than 500 people.

With more than 1,000 police patrolling Papeete since France detonated a blast of about 100 kilotonnes Sunday beneath Fangatau atoll, some 1,200 kilometres to the southeast, the main anti-nuclear and pro-independence groups have vowed public protests to avoid a replay of the riots that followed the first blast Sept. 5.

But Oscar Temaru, leader of the main pro-independence party, Tavini, reversed himself and announced Tuesday that he planned to turn out up to 3,000 people Thursday for a march near the airport in the neighbourhood of Faaa.

That area, a stronghold of the pro-independence movement, is where the riots began Sept. 6, escalating into a rampage that left the international airport partly burned out, and dozens of downtown shops and buildings looted and razed.

About 140 anti-nuclear activists from the Woman's League of New Zealand were supposed to join the protest.

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appeared with Mr. Temaru at his news conference to denounce their alleged mistreatment.

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